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PRESSURE GROWS ON GRAMMARS

THE growing number of parents pulling their children out of private schools because of the credit crunch is set to increase pressure on the state education system in Kent.

Mark Dance, cabinet member for education at Kent County Council, told Kent on Sunday the "special circumstances" of the economic downturn mean the Government should allow another grammar school to be built in the county.

Peter Read, an independent education advisor working across the county, said: "There is intense pressure on grammar school places in west Kent. There is certainly the capacity for another grammar school, particularly taking into account the children who are crossing the county boundary.

"I think that pressure is going to increase given the current credit crunch because west Kent is where the highest proportion of parents live who send their children to private schools."

The Local Government Association (LGA) surveyed 150 councils in England and found that 6.2 per cent had already been contacted by parents applying for state school admissions for pupils in private education.

Responses from individual councils were not being released, but Mr Read said his advice service had already experienced a "flurry" of enquiries from people in Kent wanting to switch from private to state education.

By **JENNA PUDELEK**

He quoted a national newspaper which predicted an "unemployment bloodbath" next year after it was revealed by the Office of National Statistics last week the amount of people claiming job loss benefits had reached more than one million – six per cent of the workforce.

"It is a major problem for people wishing to switch from private to state schools," Mr Read said.

"I think the problems are going to get considerably worse. Private schools are going to suffer because people cannot afford the fees and the charitable status issue will push fees up.

"There is a cold wind building around the private sector. A consequence of that is that parents in private schools at primary age are looking ever more at places at good Kent state schools, but specifically grammar schools."

KCC said it was too early to say whether the credit crunch had seen an impact on the number of pupils sitting the county's 11-plus exam, the Kent Test, for entry into its 33 grammar schools.

Record numbers of parents entered their children for the test this year – around 11,500 compared to 9,500 in 2007. An additional 250 children passed the test this year.

Cllr Dance said more children sat the Kent Test because the timing of the exams had been moved so that families would know the results before they applied for secondary school places.

Asked to respond to concerns that as more parents take their children out of private education they will want to have access to the county's already oversubscribed grammar schools, he said: "If you follow that line of thought through then I should be allowed to have another grammar school.

"Another grammar school would make-up that extra impact – that would be the fairest thing to do.

"If there was real impact on the system that is something I would vehemently press for. The need would be there, but because of this government we are not allowed to build on grammars, which is unfair in times like these.

"These are special circumstances we should be able to look at during special circumstances and react to them."

Education expert and former headteacher Mr Read said parents were also finding problems with other top non-grammar schools. He said: "Parents are finding that popular non-selective schools are equally full and in many cases have very long waiting lists."

He said his advice website was still receiving 200 hits a day in the week leading up to Christmas.

"My sense is the level of concern not just about grammar schools, but about other places in good Kent state schools is rising.

"There will be more pressure on good Kent state schools next March [when appeals can be filed] than ever before," he added.

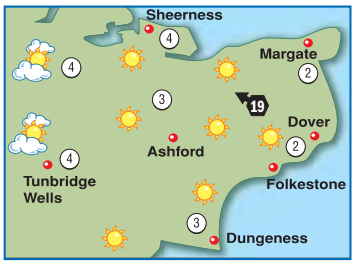
For more information visit Mr Read's website at www.kentadvice.co.uk.

Hollywood star meets Kent boy battling leukaemia

SEE INSIDE FOR FULL STORY

* Includes all surcharges and taxes. See website for details and full terms and conditions.

Kent today



TODAY: A cold and rather frosty start. Then dry and fine with plenty of sun and little cloud. A fresh easterly wind. Feeling very cold. Max temp 2-4C (36-39F).
TONIGHT: Remaining dry with largely clear skies. Moderate easterly winds. Very cold and frosty. Min temp -2 to 0C (28 to 32F).

Around Britain

		°C	°F			°C	°F
Aberdeen	cloudy	5	41	London	cloudy	5	41
Belfast	fair	4	39	Liverpool	fair	4	39
Birmingham	cloudy	5	41	Manchester	cloudy	5	41
B'mouth	fair	4	39	Newcastle	cloudy	5	41
Bristol	fair	4	39	Norwich	fair	4	39
Cardiff	fair	4	39	Oxford	fair	4	39
Cork	cloudy	4	39	Southsea	fair	4	39
Edinburgh	cloudy	6	43	S'hampton	cloudy	5	41
Glasgow	cloudy	5	41	Southport	sun	–	–
Isle of Man	cloudy	6	43	Swansea	fair	5	41
Leeds	cloudy	4	39	Torquay	cloudy	5	41

Sun & moon

Sunrise 8.02am Sunset 3.52pm
Moonrise 9.00am Moonset 4.37pm
Lighting up times: 3.52pm to 8.02am

High Tides

	today				tomorrow			
	ht (m)		ht (m)		ht (m)		ht (m)	
Dover	11.35	6.2	23.53	6.3	–	–	12.07	6.2
Margate	00.07	4.4	12.36	4.3	00.39	4.5	13.08	4.3
St Mary's	05.05	5.3	17.23	5.1	05.39	5.3	17.56	5.1

Week ahead

monday Sunny spells. max 5C min -2C
tuesday Sunny spells. max 5C min -2C
wednesday Partly cloudy. max 6C min 2C
thursday Cloudy. Dry. max 7C min 1C
friday Overcast. max 5C min 0C
saturday Sunny spells. max 6C min 1C

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'Savvy' shoppers give retailers festive cheer

Price cuts and fall in VAT see buying spree

By **TONY PATEY**
tony.patey@kosmedia.co.uk

FOOTFALL: Many of the county's shopping centres have been packed to capacity

KENT retailers saw a silver tinsel lining in the dark economic clouds last weekend as shoppers opened their purses and wallets and went on a Christmas spree.

Obviously it was the last weekend before the holidays, but there were other big factors which blew away the blues – serious discounts, careful saving up and some online shopping not being able to guarantee delivery in time.

Many shops were displaying special offers and discounts of up to a half or more and people had been saving their pennies – which has hammered retail sales over the last few months.

As the spokeswoman for one retail centre, Fremlin Walk in county town Maidstone, said: "It is the year of the savvy Christmas shopper."

Predictions by observers that shoppers would delay purchases until the last minute were certainly well founded, and even the start of this week was busy everywhere in the county.

And there's no doubt that retailers in Kent also benefited from visitors from the Eurozone taking advantage of the weak pound against the euro.

Andrew Parkinson, general manager at Bluewater, one of Europe's biggest shopping centres, said first queues on Saturday started to form at 9am and four hours later its 13,000 free car parking spaces were nearly full.

"On footfall we had a great two days – over the weekend we saw 270,000 people in total," he said.

"It is last-minute shopping and so early this week we are going to see a lot of people coming in, it's going to be extremely busy.

"But I think our record weekend will be between Christmas and the New Year."

On Monday Bluewater had its busiest day since 2003, with a footfall of over 180,000 visitors.

A spokeswoman for Fremlin Walk said the centre was "extremely busy" over the weekend and some retailers reported that sales, despite discounts and so on, were actually 40 per cent up on last year.

She said: "Given the current climate, we are very pleased with the response by shoppers – it is the year of the savvy shopper."

Frances Burt, commercial manager at Ashford's County Square shopping centre, said it was the busiest Saturday this year with "full capacity" of about 24,000 footfall. On Sunday it was 12,000 – much higher than previous Sundays – and a total 130,000 from the previous Monday to Sunday.

At Westwood Cross shopping centre in Broadstairs, general manager Tom Price said its 1,500 free car parking spaces were "heaving" and full each day over the weekend – with queues waiting.

"We had people waiting from 9.30am on Sunday – we didn't open until 11am – and when we did we were full throughout the day."

The British Retail Consortium said shoppers had put off spending until later than usual this year.

Director general Stephen Robertson said: "While conditions remain tough, retailers have reacted with high-profile price cuts and promotions. This, together with the recent reductions in VAT and interest rates, has meant in the last few days shoppers have come out in force."

Now the retailers will hoping the sales bring shoppers out in force this weekend.

Animal extremist convicted

AN ANIMAL rights extremist from Kent was among four people found guilty of orchestrating a blackmail campaign against suppliers of a research laboratory.

Daniel Wadham, 21, from Bromley, was a member of Stop Huntingdon Animal Cruelty (SHAC), which used paedophile smears, criminal damage and bomb hoaxes to intimidate companies associated with the Cambridgeshire-based Huntingdon Life Sciences.

The group also sent used sanitary items in the post and daubed messages outside managers' homes with words like 'puppy killer'.

He and three others were convicted of conspiracy to blackmail on Tuesday following a three-month trial at Winchester Crown Court. Earlier three other members had pleaded guilty to the same charge. They will be sentenced on January 19.

Wadham was among 12 people charged as part of Operation Achilles following a series of raids throughout the South East, in May, 2007.

IN COURT: Wadham

Make a difference

KOS Media's Kent Kids for Christmas appeal has been running throughout the festive period and gives readers the chance to help children across the county.

By buying this edition of the award-winning Kent on Sunday for 60p the profits will be donated to children's charities that help young people who face disadvantages such as disabilities and homelessness.

Since the launch of the fund-raising project four years ago more than £30,000 has been donated to various children's charities in Kent. Last year, £2,000 was donated to Demelza Hospice Care for Children and a further £7,000 went to the Help a Kent Child appeal, which passes on the money to charities across the county.

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Officer vows to find schoolgirl's murderer

Nickell killer suspect in unsolved slaying

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

A SENIOR police officer says he is confident the person who murdered schoolgirl Claire Tiltman 16 years ago will eventually be brought to justice.

Det Chief Insp Dave Withers said the brutal stabbing of the youngster from Greenhithe remains one of the biggest murder inquiries Kent Police has ever undertaken.

His comments follow reports last weekend that Robert Napper – who last week admitted killing Rachel Nickell on Wimbledon Common in 1992 – is also suspected of murdering Claire.

Both were stabbed more than 40 times in attacks that took place within just six months of each other.

Investigated

DCI Withers said: "We have been reviewing the murder of Claire Tiltman for six years. Any information received about the case will be seriously and thoroughly investigated by the case review team, with the expert assistance of Kent Police's major crime department.

"I firmly believe we will eventually bring Claire's killer to justice. Thanks to people maintaining contact with the police and the willingness of the media to keep the case alive, I'm confident we will get to the truth one day.

"It remains one of the biggest murder inquiries Kent Police has ever undertaken in terms of resources, time and cost."

Claire was stabbed to death on January 18, 1993, just four days after her 16th birthday.

The Dartford Grammar pupil, who was on her way to see a friend, was attacked in an alley near her home.

Former Metropolitan Police officer Vincent Wright was quoted in a number of national newspapers last weekend as saying that he first brought up the link between the two murders in 1998.

He said: "Napper could have been stopped. It was down to poor investigatory procedure that he wasn't. I first raised the possibility with a PC in Southampton, where I was living in 1998, but it was brushed off.

"I then went to see an inspector in 2000. I gave them a time-line and told them I thought Napper had killed Rachel Nickell and Claire Tiltman.

"It was soon after Rachel Nickell was killed, I think they were so focused on getting Colin Stagg they could not contemplate it could have been somebody else."

Claire's father, Cliff, who earlier this year told KOS Media he felt the death penalty should be brought back for murderers, would not speculate on the possibility of Napper being responsible for his daughter's death.

He told the Telegraph: "Over the years there have been a number of people put in the frame for my daughter's murder.

"I can't condemn Robert Napper because I don't know if he did it or not.

"I have spoken to Kent Police officers about the possibility but they say they have nothing conclusive so cannot comment."

SUSPECT: Robert Napper, (left) who admitted killing Rachel Nickell (inset) on Wimbledon Common is also linked with the 1993 murder of Claire Tiltman (right)

News and sport updated daily online
www.kentnews.co.uk

Police lollies for boozy revellers

POLICE in Maidstone are trying a new tactic in a bid to curb booze fuelled anti-social behaviour – lollipops.

Officers will be handing out free lollipops to clubbers and drinkers as they leave nightclubs and late-night pubs. The lollies were handed out on Christmas Eve and the exercise will be repeated on New Year's Eve.

Sergeant Ian Jones of the Town Centre Neighbourhood Unit said: "The idea tackles three issues at once. Noise, as people literally have their mouths full, anti-social behaviour and alcohol-related incidents.

"It's been proven the sugar in lollipops help stabilise the behaviour of people who have consumed alcohol. The idea has achieved good results and we hope it will prove just as successful in Maidstone."

Mugged near pub

A TEENAGER had his mobile telephone and passport stolen after he was attacked in Canterbury, last Wednesday.

The 19-year-old was treated in hospital for a head injury following the assault, which took place as he made his way from the Thomas Ingoldsby pub, Burgate, to the Maiden's Head, Wincheap, between 8.25pm and 9.30pm.

Anyone with information can call PC Chris Kidd on 01227 868262 or email 10072@kent.pnn.police.uk.

To see this clip search 'discovery' @ yourkenttv.co.uk

Take a tour of the Discovery and learn about Kent's role in the founding of the first English speaking colony in America

Film star Cruz backs call for more bone marrow donors

AN eight-year-old boy from Maidstone has met up with Hollywood actress Penelope Cruz in a campaign to urge people to register as bone marrow donors.

Joe Cawse, who has been on a donor waiting list for more than three years, met the star of movies such as Sahara and Vanilla Sky while she was filming in London.

Ms Cruz joined the Anthony Nolan Trust's national bone marrow campaign after meeting their courier on a flight from Madrid to London when he was delivering bone marrow for another youngster in the UK.

Ms Cruz told the charity she wanted to help other patients who could not find donors and staff arranged her meeting with Joe.

She said: "He's a sunny and intelligent eight-year-old but is battling with leukaemia as I speak.

"One suitable donor could save his life. I was surprised to discover there are two ways to donate your bone marrow and the second way is a much easier, less invasive process than I had ever imagined.

"If only more people in the UK knew that there is a method of donating bone marrow that is simple and pain free."

A spokesperson for the charity said more than 1,300 patients in the UK search for a suitable bone marrow donor each year but because individual genetic make-up is so varied the chances of finding a match are slim.

Joe's mother, Sheriden, said his diagnosis had led to a "truly horrendous and terrifying few years".

"We were told that a bone marrow transplant was Joe's only option, but a donor hasn't been found yet," she said.

"Joe's prognosis was two years, but that was three years ago so we've beaten that.

"Joe was so excited about meeting Penelope Cruz – she was really warm and friendly and seemed to understand the issues facing families like us."

UNDERSTANDING: Penelope Cruz has lent her support to the call for more people to register as bone marrow donors

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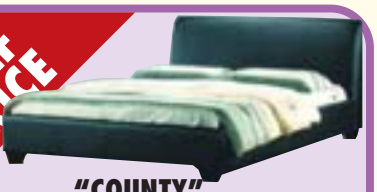

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Priestfield faithful take to big screen

Football legends and Gills 'fans' star in new comedy about away-day FA Cup tie

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

GILLINGHAM FC could earn a place on the world movie map when a comedy based on its supporters hits cinema screens next year.

England football legends John Barnes and Peter Beardsley have cameo roles in a new film The Shouting Men, as does the chairman of Kent's only Football League club Paul Scally.

The film was originally intended to be an ITV1 sitcom series, but director Matt Daniel-Baker, of Away Days Productions, decided to aim higher when he received glowing reviews of the pilot episode's script.

He told KOS Media: "We received such positive feedback that I left ITV and then we raised the production money and did it ourselves. It hasn't been easy – in fact it's been a nightmare – but we've managed to do it and actually finished filming on Tuesday.

"Once it's all put together we'll get a distributor on board, put it in the cinemas and then try to sell it around the world. We're very confident it will do well."

Witch-hunt

The Shouting Men tells the tale of a set of fans who travel north to watch the Gills play Premiership giants Newcastle United in the quarter-finals of the FA Cup.

However, their trip goes pear-shaped when they abandon a wheelchair-bound accomplice due to his football hooligan ways.

The elderly supporter tells his side of the story to the news, which sparks a national witch-hunt for his former travel companions.

Mr Daniel-Baker said: "We wanted the right sort of club to be featured, one that has seen little success over the years, but still has loyal supporters who maintain a glimmer of hope.

"But perhaps more importantly for us was that because of where Gillingham is, its supporters always have to travel fair distances to watch their team play.

"The staff at the club were amazing and they let us use Priestfield (Stadium) as our production base for four weeks. We shot most of the match scenes there and we also filmed around the University of Greenwich (at Chatham) and at (Gravesend hotel) the Inn on the Lake."

The name for the film comes from the Latin words domus clamantium – meaning 'home of the shouting men' – that once adorned the Gillingham club badge.

Mr Daniel-Baker said: "The sitcom series was originally going to be called Away Days, but there's a film about football hooliganism that has that name so we had to change it. Fortunately, Gillingham is known as the home of the shouting men and that fit perfectly."

Craig Fairbrass, who played Dan Sullivan in EastEnders, and former Lovejoy star Dudley Sutton also star in the film, which is due to be released late next year.

STAR STRUCK: The Shouting Men will feature John Barnes (left) and Gills' Paul Scally

Sex on the beach man back in jail

A BUSINESSMAN due to be deported from Dubai for having sex in public has returned to prison.

Earlier this year Vince Acors, 34, from Bromley, was found guilty of breaking the Islamic laws of public indecency and having sex with 36-year-old Michelle Palmer, from Rutland.

He was due to return to the UK on Tuesday, but was detained at Dubai Airport because, according to Acors' lawyer, his flight confirmation was allegedly "not in order".

Acors was originally due to leave the country on Friday, but instead spent the weekend in prison because of a delay in the deportation process. His lawyer described the situation as "farcical" and said he did not know when his client would now be released.

Both Acors and Palmer were arrested on Jumeirah Beach on July 5, just hours after meeting at a champagne brunch at a five-star hotel. The pair denied any wrongdoing and claimed they were just "kissing and hugging".

To see this clip go to 'leisure TV' @ yourkenttv.co.uk

Members of the KOS Media staff explain just what the Christmas season really means to them

Poorly Doherty misses out on his Christmas presents

BABYSHAMBLES star Pete Doherty failed to pick up his family Christmas presents when he didn't make a show at the Tap n Tin pub in Chatham, ***writes Nick Ames***.

The ex-Libertines frontman had been due to support cockney duo Chas and Dave, but left hundreds of fans who had paid the £30 ticket price disappointed.

The venue said he had set off for the concert, but was forced to turn round and go home because of ill health.

He also failed to pick up his family's gifts as his sister, brother-in-law and uncle had all taken presents for him to the show.

Tap n Tin owner John Terry said: "Pete was very disappointed to not be able to perform, but he had been ill all week. He actually did leave his home, but just couldn't make it.

"It was doubly disappointing for Pete because members of his family had all come along. It was their chance to meet up with him before Christmas and give him his presents. But he never got those either. So it was disappointment all round.

NO SHOW: Doherty

"Last year, Pete played the show and said what a great time he had. This is an evening off for him in some ways – not a regular gig. So I know he would have got here if he could."

The show took place on Saturday with another act filling in as support and Chas and Dave playing a full set.

Mr Terry said: "I was actually involved with trying to find out about where Pete was.

"When I made the announcement he wasn't playing there was naturally a bit of disappointment, but the evening picked up and went well."

Last year a packed house applauded both Doherty and Chas and Dave and Mr Terry said he intended to hold a similar event in 2009.

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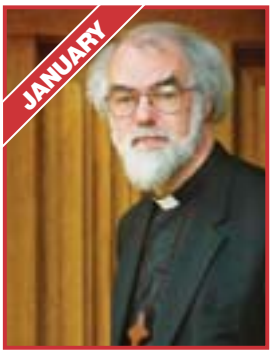
REVIEW OF THE YEAR

Enjoy our look back over the headlines of the



Goodbye to 2008

THE year was packed with up and downs, highs and lows and everything in between. Reporters ***Steve Knight*** and ***Jenna Pudelek*** look back on some of the highlights and key events of the year. Editor Ian Patel said: "I would like to thank all our readers and advertisers for your support in 2008. I wish you all a happy and prosperous New Year."

JAN 2008

THE year began with Kent County Council's leader Paul Carter calling for a "tougher" approach to welfare after the Tories claimed £14 million a year was being paid to incapacity benefit claimants in Kent who were fit to work.

• MEANWHILE, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Rowan Williams, was struggling to avoid a split in the Anglican Church over the issue of homosexuality and in particularly the ordination of gay bishops.

Conservative bishops, including the Bishop of Rochester, Dr Michael Nazir Ali, threatened to boycott the Lambeth Conference.

• THE 2008 New Year Honours list included more than 40 people from across the county.

Karen Millen, the Maidstone fashion designer, became an Officer of the British Empire (OBE) and Valerie Bloom, a poet from Swanley, was made a Member of the British Empire (MBE).

The highest honour went to Tonbridge resident Philip Wynn Owen, the director general of strategy and pensions for the Department for Work and Pensions, who was awarded the Companion Order of the Bath (CB).

FEB 2008

KOS Media launched its Clean, Safe, Healthy campaign to encourage people to wash their hands at home, work and in the county's hospitals and healthcare centres.

The aim was to help the NHS in its battle against killer superbugs through promoting good hygiene and it came after 90 patients died from outbreaks of Clostridium difficile in west Kent hospitals.

• FIVE of the robbers involved in the £53 million Securitas heist in Tonbridge began prison sentences totaling a maximum of 140 years.

It was Britain's biggest ever cash robbery and captured the public's imagination, but the investigation team at Kent Police warned against romantic notions of the crime reminding readers that a child was kidnapped at gunpoint.

• THE month also saw a Kent Tory MP launch a crusade for more censorship of violent and sexual content in films.

Canterbury's Julian Brazier took particular issue with a low-budget 1970s 'video nasty' called SS Experiment Camp.

The moral crusader called for MPs to have powers to ban "ghastly" films.

MAR 2008

THE, now former, Mayor of Calais ruffled more than a few feathers in Kent when he pledged to go ahead with plans for a permanent immigration centre in the port town.

The Tories were outraged raising fears the centre would attract asylum seekers from across Europe and would become a Sangatte deux.

• FRANCO-KENTISH relations were further soured after industrial action across the Channel brought the county's roads to a standstill as the M20 turned into a giant lorry park.

KCC leader Cllr Carter went head to head with French President Nicolas Sarkozy demanding he pay compensation for the traffic chaos caused by the SeaFrance ferry strike.

He claimed the action had cost millions of pounds to Kent and the wider UK economy, as well as widespread misery to motorists.

• KOS readers got their chance to quiz the Prime Minister Gordon Brown who answered a range of questions on issues including transport, immigration and the EU.

Mr Brown was given a framed copy of the front page, which launched the 'Ask Gordon' drive, to keep at his Downing Street home.

APR 2008

SCIENTISTS and doctors made the case for stem cell research during a debate at Canterbury Christ Church University.

Professor Vivianne Nathanson, from the British Medical Association, urged people not to dismiss aspects of the Government's Human Fertilisation and Embryology Bill, which could eventually save patients from life-threatening illnesses, because of the 'yuck factor'. But church leaders in Kent condemned the potentially life-saving research.

• A CRUEL blow was dealt to Margate's Dreamland when arsonists attacked the iconic and historically important Grade-II listed Scenic Railway rollercoaster.

Despite being badly damaged Thanet District Council, its owners and English Heritage pledged to rebuild and restore it.

• THE Tory leader of Gravesham council got personal with senior Lib Dem MP Lembit Opik over plans for a controversial skyscraper dubbed the 'Gravesend Gherkin'.

Mr Opik criticised the tower proposals as "totally out of character with the area".

Cllr Michael Snelling hit back with "his only claim to fame appears to be a girlfriend who sings dubious ditties", in a cruel reference to Mr Opik's then partner Cheeky Girl Gabriela Irimia.

MAY 2008

FEARS were raised after it was revealed that nearly 900 prisoners had been released early from Kent jails including one in five who had committed violent crimes.

Police and front-bench Conservative MPs criticised the Government's early release scheme as a poor solution to over-crowded prisons.

The Ministry for Justice said the scheme was "working well" and sex offenders and the most serious violent criminals were not included.

• KENT Labour MP Jonathan Shaw urged more countries to oppose the "barbaric" and banned practice of commercial whaling. The fisheries minister said Japan, Norway and Demark were attempting to get the ban lifted.

He also said he would be speaking out

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last 12 months and relive the top stories that touched the Garden of England

against scientific whaling, which is legal, when he flew to Chile in June to attend the International Whaling Conference.

• NORTH Kent became the focus of the contemporary art world as the short-listed designs for the £2 million Ebbsfleet monument were revealed.

Last year's Turner Prize winner Mark Wallinger came up with a giant lifelike white horse – 33 times bigger than an actual thoroughbred, while the French conceptual artist Daniel Buren's 'signal' featured a five-cube tower and a vertical laser beam.

JUN 2008

AS the price of petrol soared, incidents of fuel thefts increased dramatically across Kent.

Police reported that 'drive offs' had risen 24 per cent and siphoning theft by 40 per cent in a year as drivers were forking out £1.18 a litre for petrol and £1.32 for diesel.

• THE first of seven giant glasshouses the size of 10 football pitches was completed at Thanet Earth.

UK salad crop production will increase 15 per cent thanks to the massive complex, which will see 2.5 million tomatoes, 700,000 peppers and 560,000 cucumbers harvested each week.

It was dubbed 'Frakenfarm' by critics but it will save on food miles, produces its own power and uses the by-produce, carbon dioxide, to grow its crops and each of the glasshouses has its own reservoir to collect and recycle rainwater.

• A STUDENT spotted a rare albino squirrel in the grounds at Canterbury College. Only one in 100,000 squirrels are born albino due to a genetic abnormality, wildlife experts revealed.

JUL 2008

POLICE reacted angrily to claims by a black detective that there is "widespread racism" in the Kent force.

Det Sgt Wendell Henry, who works at Canterbury police station, made the claims despite there being only six complaints of racism made by the public between March, 2007, and April, 2008.

• There was also bad news for the organisers of the Zoo8 music festival at Port Lympne Wild Animal Park, which descended into shambles as headline acts cancelled and facilities were criticised.

About 12,000 people attended the three-day event, which was 8,000 less than originally hoped for.

• MEANWHILE, a grainy black-and-white photograph led to the rediscovery of the grave of one of Kent and England's greatest ever cricketers.

A descendent of Fuller Pilch passed on a picture of his mother standing next to the 19th century legend's final resting place at a cemetery in Canterbury, which developers were initially worried they might build over.

However, the photograph showed Pilch was buried in an area away from where they wanted to construct a new university music centre.

CONTINUED ON PAGE EIGHT

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A GANG of youths chased a teenager with learning disabilities and beat him. Police are looking for witnesses to the assault in King Street, Ramsgate, last Monday, December 15.

The 18-year-old was walking home between 7-8pm when he was chased by the gang who kicked and punched him. It is believed a member of the public may have intervened to stop the assault.

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REVIEW OF THE YEAR

Do you remember all of the

A year tinged with

CONTINUED FROM PAGE SEVEN

AUG 2008

MORE than 1,500 people took part in a climate camp to protest at plans for a new coal-powered power station at Kingsnorth, on the Hoo Peninsula.

An almost equal number of police officers also attended and were accused of heavy-handedness in their attempts to maintain a peaceful demonstration.

• MEANWHILE, Kent was represented by a number of athletes and sportsmen at the Olympic Games in Beijing.

Ashford's Jamie Staff was the county's biggest winner as he claimed a gold medal in the Team Sprint cycling event.

The 35-year-old thanked Kent on Sunday readers for their support following his memorable victory.

• BUT August was also a month that was tinged with sadness as hundreds mourned the death of former Kent County Council leader Lord Sandy Bruce-Lockhart.

The 66-year-old, who also once served as chairman of the Local Government Association, died after a near year-long battle with cancer.

Among those who paid tribute to Lord Bruce-Lockhart were Conservative Party leader David Cameron and former Deputy Prime Minister John Prescott.

SEP 2008

A FIRE that broke out on the Channel Tunnel caused chaos for hauliers, motorists and ferry passengers alike.

Fifty people were evacuated as a result of the blaze, which broke out in a lorry on the shuttle service and reached temperatures as high as 1,000 degrees Celsius.

Engineers expect the rebuilding of the north tunnel to be complete by February, 2009.

• ONE man who had no such trouble crossing the Channel was Yves Rossy, who successfully flew from Calais to Dover using a Buzz Lightyear-style rocket pack. The 49-year-old Swiss national completed his solo flight 99 years after Louis Bleriot became the first man to do so in a powered aircraft.

• NEWS of his successful flight would no doubt have been covered on Invicta FM, which announced to its listeners that it was to change its name to Heart.

Managing director Neil Webster said the change was to increase awareness of the Heart brand so that it could compete with the BBC on a national level.

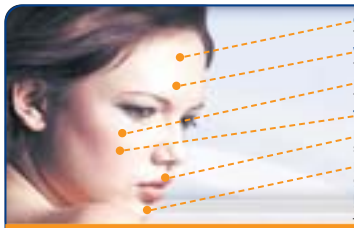
OCT 2008

THE collapse of the Icelandic banking system affected savers and local authorities throughout the country, but none more so than Kent County Council.

KCC had £50 million invested in Heritable, Glitnir and Landsbanki, and is still fighting to get it back.

A report later cleared the authority of making any serious mistakes before the crisis, other than the deposit of £3m made because an employee did not read an email warning him not to.

• MEANWHILE, reports of a UFO that almost collided with a passenger jet above Lydd formed part of a series of documents



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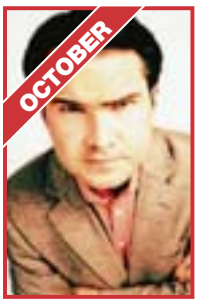
stories and characters that dominated the news during 2008?

sadness... and joy



released for the first time by the Ministry of Defence.

Other Kent-related files included an oval-type object that made telephone wires go dead in Ashford, as well as a bright green disc that caused a Broadstairs woman's car engine to cut out.

• OCTOBER was also a memorable month for comedian Jimmy Carr, whose stand-up show at Margate Winter Gardens was disrupted by a nappy-wearing heckler.

NOV 2008

THE arrest of Ashford MP Damian Green caused arguments in Parliament that continue to this day.

Mr Green was held in custody for nine hours as part of an investigation into Home Office leaks, with anti-terrorism officers carrying out searches of his homes and offices.

Fellow MPs are angry that police officers were given permission to search his Commons offices without a warrant.

• NOVEMBER was a sad month for members of the Folkestone-based 2nd Battalion The Royal Gurkha Rifles, who lost two comrades in the space of a fortnight.

Rifleman Yubraj Rai died from enemy combat fire in the Musa Qala district of Helmand Province, while a roadside bomb claimed the life of Colour Sergeant Krishna Dura.

Tributes poured in for both following their deaths.

• MEANWHILE, Lewis Hamilton – who was discovered at Buckmore Park kart track – clinched his first Formula One world championship following an exciting final race of the season in Brazil.

DEC 2008

MARGATE monster Peter Tobin was finally convicted of the abduction, rape and murder of missing schoolgirl Vicky Hamilton.

The 62-year-old will likely die in prison after receiving a 30-year prison sentence for the 1991 attacks, as he suffers from ill health and is already serving 21 years for a previous murder. However, Tobin now plans to appeal his conviction.

• MEANWHILE, Gillingham FC earned themselves a bumper FA Cup payday with a surprising 2-1 victory over Stockport County in the second round.

The Gills will now play Premiership high-fliers Aston Villa on January 4 in a game that will net them about £300,000 in television fees, gate receipts, sponsorship and prize money.

• CHATHAM'S Central Theatre also received a financial boost when its pantomime star Joe Swash won I'm a Celebrity…Get Me Out of Here! Ticket sales for Cinderella soared after the former EastEnders star's victory in the Australian jungle.

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‘People said he was least accurate, but the most truthful’

Artist remembers Gonzo writer Hunter S Thompson as docu-film about his friend’s life is released

By JAMIE McGINNES
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

ARTIST Ralph Steadman has spoken about the life and legacy of Hunter S Thompson, on the release of a new film focusing on the Gonzo writer.

Mr Steadman, 72, who lives near Maidstone, provided the striking illustrations that accompanied several of Thompson’s articles and books, including the cult classic, Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas.

Now, a new film has been released about the American writer, Gonzo: The Life and Work of Dr Hunter S Thompson.

“I think he was somebody who wanted to write books and couldn’t,” Steadman told BBC Radio 4, when asked about Thompson’s significance.

Plot

“That’s why he took so much to journalism, because he could find in journalism the very stories, the very corruption, the very sort of things he needed to create a plot.”

He added: “Part of covering the (presidential) elections in ’72 of Richard Nixon and (George) McGovern was that in fact he was looking at people who had never thought about telling the truth before and that was exactly what was making it so important to listen to and to read him.

“People said he was the least accurate, but the most truthful.”

The new biopic is narrated by Johnny Depp, who also played Thompson’s alter ego Raoul Duke in the 1998 film based on Fear and Loathing, which was directed by Terry Gilliam.

Picture: MAGNOLIA PICTURES.

Thompson, who killed himself in 2005, is regarded as the creator of Gonzo journalism, whereby the reporter becomes a central part of the stories they are writing about and truth and fiction are blurred.

Steadman explained how Thompson first adopted the word Gonzo.

“It was a strange meeting back in 1970. They wanted somebody to get involved in the story and the story was the Kentucky Derby.

“He reckoned it was a ‘goddamn failure’ as a story, but somebody, a man called Cordosa, told him that it was pure Gonzo and [for] Hunter, that was the first time he’d ever heard the word, or me for that matter.

“He picked it up immediately and made it his own.”

Although Thompson declared that Steadman’s illustrations perfectly tallied with his words, he would nevertheless often insult him – but that was his way of showing he cared, said the cartoonist and caricaturist.

“In fact, if he didn’t insult me I’d reckon he didn’t love me anymore so I guess I had to put up with that sort of thing.

COLLABORATOR: Ralph Steadman (above) provided the illustrations for some of Hunter S Thompson’s (left) most famous works

“The abuse was part of the relationship.”

Thompson’s widow Anita said she liked the new biopic because it looked at a specific part of his life, rather than its entirety.

“What I love about the film is that it does focus on one period of Hunter’s career, rather than trying to encapsulate his entire life.

“It focuses on the years between 1965 and ’75, a very important time in our history when he worked closely with Ralph and they shared a similar vision of the corruption and interesting part of the American culture.”

She said her late husband, who shot himself in the head at his home in Colorado, was a difficult man.

“He did share the glory when a project was successful and everything went well. He also shared the blame and the pain and those of us who were close to him remember those times very well.

“He certainly was a difficult man, as many artists are and he was also a glorious and loving man.”

In August, 2005, Thompson’s remains were fired into the atmosphere from a cannon on top of a 153-ft tower shaped like a double-thumbed fist. The idea came about as a result of a joke shared by Thompson and Steadman in the 1970s, his widow said.

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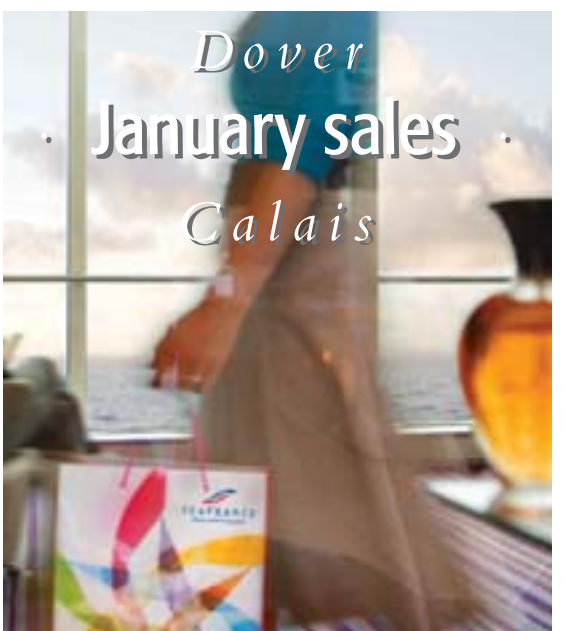

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Life in jail for killing his girlfriend

A MAN who stabbed his girlfriend to death and tried to kill her 10-year-old brother has been sentenced to life imprisonment.

Alessandro Selvaggi, 25, from Bromley, was found guilty at Harrow Crown Court of the murder of 22-year-old Jevgenia Suveri, and of the attempted murder of her 10-year-old brother Vladislav, who both lived at the same address as Selvaggi, on or before December 2, 2007.

He will serve a minimum of 18 years behind bars.

The only 'eye-witness' account officers have of the events that led to Miss Suveri's death has come from Selvaggi himself.

Police say it is understood that on the night of November 30, 2007, Selvaggi and Jevgenia had been for a night out with friends. They returned home at approximately 5am the following day and became involved in an argument, during which Selvaggi stabbed his girlfriend in the chest and shoulder and cut her throat.

He then went to Vladislav while he slept. He was stabbed several times in the throat and left for dead.

After leaving the home Selvaggi bought drugs and alcohol and in the early hours of December 2, 2007, some 24 hours later, in an intoxicated state, he told officers in east London what he had done and was arrested.

At 6am on December 2 officers forced their way into the home and discovered the body of Jevgenia and a severely injured Vladislav. The boy was taken to the Princess Royal Hospital for treatment. He has since gone on to make a full recovery.

Det Insp Tony Bishop, who led the investigation, said: "This was an awful crime which ended the life of a young woman and robbed Vladislav not only of his sister but also his primary carer.

"Under the influence of drink and drugs, Selvaggi told police what he had done, yet at court he pleaded not guilty, claiming he had been provoked by taunts from Jevgenia that he was unable to satisfy her and that she was a prostitute.

"There was not a shred of evidence to support these claims, and the jury did not accept he had been provoked into such brutal acts of violence.

"Vladislav has continued to recover from physical and mental scars he will carry for many years. I hope this result helps this young boy and all of Jevgenia's family and friends in starting to rebuild their lives."

MURDERER: Alessandro Selvaggi confessed to police while on drugs

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Police watchdog relief as Smith scraps elections

By **JENNA PUDELEK**
jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

THE head of Kent's police watchdog has welcomed the Home Office's decision to scrap major changes to the make-up of the bodies that oversee forces.

Mark Gilmartin, chief executive of the Kent Police Authority (KPA), said authorities must be accountable to the public but party politics and single-issue campaigners must be kept out of local policing.

Home Secretary Jacqui Smith announced last week that plans to directly elect members of police authority watchdogs had been dropped due to fears over of "politicisation".

"We welcome the removal of that proposal from the new Policing and Crime Bill," Mr Gilmartin said.

"The KPA's view is that it is important there is a watchdog or body overseeing and holding to account policing in Kent.

"The public need to feel reassured we have a strong and balanced group of individuals who do that in Kent."

He said the Home Office had heeded the "overwhelming majority" of local opinion, police associations, local councillors and senior police officers, who had said the proposals would have "very serious consequences that would upset local policing".

Fears had been voiced that political extremists and members of single-issue pressure groups could hold positions of power over local policing and would be able to influence priorities for local forces.

The KPA is made up of 17 members who are a mixture of councillors and people from the community.

At a stakeholder conference the KPA asked representatives of Kent Police, the NHS, the prison service and Kent Fire and Rescue for their views on directly elected police watchdogs. Seventy-seven per cent of respondents agreed that the current structure was already effective.

"The principle of directly-elected police authorities is people having a say about how policing is run," Mr Gilmartin said.

"But the principle also must be that there is a need to keep party politics and narrow political views out of policing."

The Home Office made the proposals in an attempt to increase police accountability to the public and raise the profile of police authorities. Mr Gilmartin agreed that more needed to be done to raise public awareness of police authorities and their work.

Asked about accountability, he said: "It is really important that the public feel we are there and that if they have a grievance there is a route for redress and action, and that the force is responsive to us. We do not need direct elections do do that."

He said the KPA had a good track record of addressing public concerns over policing.

Ann Barnes, chairwoman of the KPA, said: "I am so pleased that the Home Office has come to its senses. This change of heart will save money and ensure party politics are not introduced into policing."

Police authorities are responsible for appointing chief constables and senior officers, and setting the budget for their police force and the percentage of council tax needed to fund policing.

News and sport updated daily online
www.kentnews.co.uk

Sacked over obscene insult to Bishop

A MEMBER of the Archbishop of Canterbury's staff has been dismissed for insulting the Bishop of Rochester in an official document.

The worker wrote an obscenity next to the Rt Rev Michael Nazir-Ali's comments on a vicar's job inquiry.

A confidential document sent from Lambeth Palace to Downing Street and 43 diocesan bishops included the word "arsehole" alongside to the name of Dr Nazir-Ali, Britain's most senior Asian Anglican.

The insult – which specifically referred to "The arsehole Bishop of Rochester" – appeared in a list of job vacancies and candidates.

The offending member of Dr Rowan Williams' staff has since been sacked. A Church spokesman said: "The person responsible admitted to it and was dismissed."

Dr Nazir-Ali boycotted the Lambeth Conference in July in protest at the presence of those who supported the openly gay American bishop Gene Robinson.

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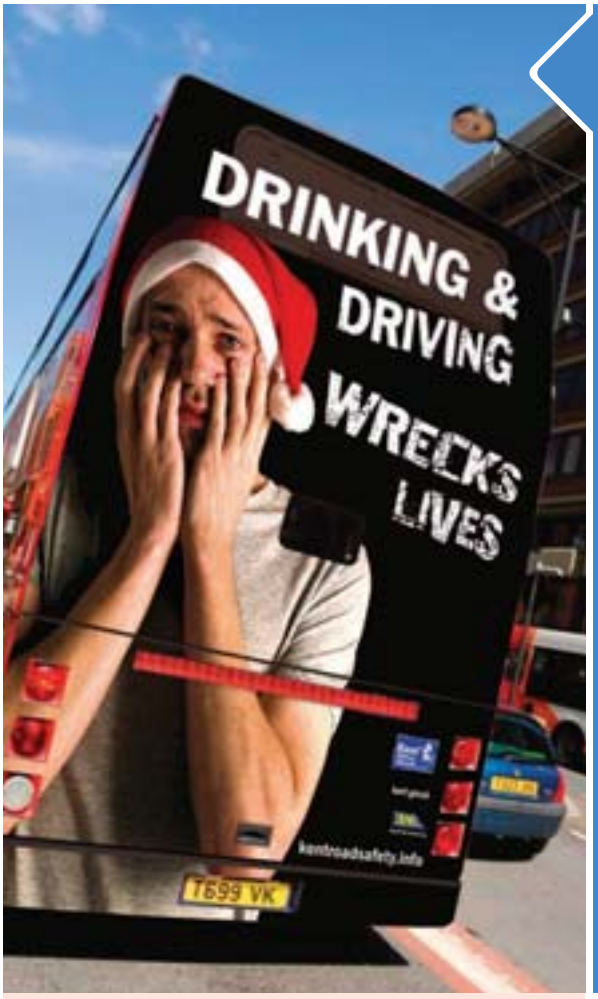


Taking to the streets to spread the message

Last month, we launched our Christmas anti-drink driving campaign by taking a Christmas tree display around the county and reminding drivers that it could be Christmas Mourning if drink driving is involved.

Now that the party season has really started, we've taken to the roads with bus back advertising and billboards are going up around the county to remind drivers that drinking and driving wrecks lives.

A TV advert will also run on ITV Meridian featuring the mime artist story that was successfully used for the Christmas anti-drink driving campaign last year.

If you're planning to go out and enjoy the festive season this year, remember to make transport part of your plans. If you're planning to drive, make sure you have a firm plan to get home again before you set off. Planning ahead is the best way to avoid a situation where you're tempted to drive home under the influence of alcohol. Even small amounts will have an effect on your driving, so make sure you do have a happy Christmas and avoid alcohol altogether if you're driving.

The campaign will run until early January to capture New Year festivities and any after Christmas office parties.

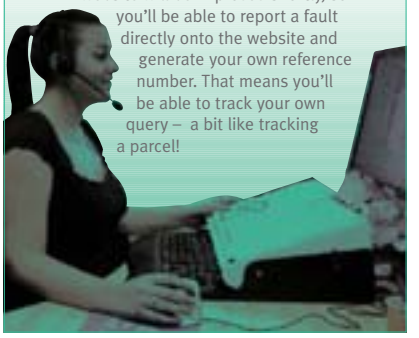
MAKING CONTACT COUNT

At Kent Highway Services, our inspectors monitor over 5,000 miles of roads and 4,000 miles of pavements, but we can't be everywhere at once and that's why we rely on your feedback when you spot something that needs to be dealt with.

Our contact centre is open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year and you can call us on **08458 247 800** or email us at **kent.highwayservices@kent.gov.uk.** We have a team dedicated to dealing with highways queries and they can log faults and also give general highways advice and information over the phone, where possible. In fact, did you know that the team handles around 16,000 highways calls and 3,000 emails per month?

When you report a fault, it's logged with a unique reference number and then sent directly to the correct team to deal with the issue. It helps us if we can give the teams an accurate location, so please remember to give us as much information as you can when you call in.

As well as email and phone, we also receive requests from the Kent Highway Services website **www.kent.gov.uk/highways.** The website will be improved shortly, so you'll be able to report a fault directly onto the website and generate your own reference number. That means you'll be able to track your own query – a bit like tracking a parcel!



Travel Update

Kent Highway Services

Below are roadworks and events that may cause some disruptions. Please remember that these are planned works and other emergency works may be required.

Shepway

Start	Finish	Road	Reason
current	5.1.09	Cheriton High Street, Folkestone	Temporary traffic lights – gas mains works

Maidstone

Start	Finish	Road	Reason
current	2.3.09	East Sutton Road, Sutton Valence	Road closure – sewer mains works

Dartford

Start	Finish	Road	Reason
current	27.3.09	Burnham Road, Dartford	Temporary traffic lights – new water mains
current	30.4.09	High Road, Wilmington	Temporary traffic lights – new gas mains

Gravesend

Start	Finish	Road	Reason
current	31.3.09	Wellington Street, Gravesend	Road closure – carriageway works

For details of other roadworks in Kent please visit www.kent.gov.uk/travel

See www.KentTV.com for up-to-date travel information

A Winter's Tail

Winter can be a difficult time for many species of wild animal. As temperatures fall, more energy is required to sustain life processes, but the availability of food is reduced at the same time.

Animals cope with these seasonal changes in a variety of ways. Mobile creatures such as birds may move to warmer climates where they can continue to be relatively active, but for the less mobile, activity levels have to slow down and the need for safe shelters with stable temperatures becomes paramount.

So what does this have to do with Kent Highway Services? Well, hibernation is an extreme method of adapting to winter conditions – it's a key strategy for smaller animals that are reliant on very seasonal foodstuffs, such as bats, hedgehogs and dormice. These animals need to build-up fat reserves during the warmer months, and as winter approaches, they find or build a well-insulated shelter where they can remain inactive. Many of these hibernation places can be found in close proximity to Kent's highways, so identifying these important habitat features is something that our ecologists take very seriously when road schemes are planned. By incorporating these natural habitats in the design of schemes, we can make sure that they are preserved for the wildlife that need them.

You can find out more about the work that we do online at **www.kent.gov.uk/highways**

For more information, please call 08458 247 800 or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Bogus police officer robs pensioner, 89, in own home

AN E-FIT of a bogus policeman who attacked an 89-year-old has been released by detectives.

The attack took place at the victim's home in Walpole Road, Bromley, on December 4, at about 8pm, after the pensioner answered the door to a man claiming to be a police officer.

As the victim opened the door, two men barged in and began to threaten him and ask for money. He gave them cash from his jacket, but they shouted for more.

The victim was slow to respond and the suspects began to hit him in the face.

One of them pulled the telephone line out of the wall and they ransacked the house, finding more cash as they did so.

Eventually they left, warning the victim they would be monitoring him.

Black eyes

He called the police from a neighbour's house and was taken to hospital suffering from head injuries, including black eyes, a swollen nose and swollen ear.

The attackers are both white. One is aged 30-35, about 5ft 7in and of stocky build. He has black hair and wore a blue tunic over blue corduroy trousers.

The other man – shown in the e-fit – is aged 30-35 years, about 5ft 10in and muscular. He has prominent features, is of chiselled appearance and has light brown to blond hair. He wore a smart grey suit. Det Insp Alex Phipp of Bromley CID said: "We are horrified by this dreadful attack. The victim was understandably frightened. That they then hit him because he was responding slowly is heartless.

WHO IS HE?: A police e-fit image of the bogus officer they want to trace

"Any genuine police officer would normally call by appointment. He or she would certainly show their ID before gaining entry and allow time for details to be checked."

Anyone with information can call Bromley police on 020 8284 9969 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.

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Boy crushed by dad's JCB

A YOUNGSTER died after being accidentally crushed by his father in a JCB, an inquest heard.

Bobby-John Eastwood, six, died at his family's home in Parbrook Road, High Halstow on August 27. The inquest, attended by Bobby-John's mother and two close relatives, heard how the boy was killed in a tragic accident shortly after 6pm.

His mother and three younger sisters were inside their home – one of the permanent mobile homes on their land – having dinner.

Bobby-John's father, Bobby Eastwood, had gone outside to work with a JCB, moving soil at the rear of the home.

At some point Bobby-John slipped outside to join his father. Neither his mother nor his father saw him leaving the home.

Minutes later Mr Eastwood swung the arm of the JCB and saw young Bobby-John lying on his back on the ground. He had been crushed and suffocated by the digger.

The inquest heard how Bobby-John's mother remembered seeing Mr Eastwood running past the house with their son in his arms shouting: "I've killed my little boy. I've killed him. What am I going to do?"

Mid Kent and Medway coroner Roger Sykes said: "This was simply a most tragic accident. Bobby-John died from traumatic asphyxia, as a result of what I can only describe as being crushed by a JCB.

"Bobby-John had gone outside, unknown to his mother who was getting the boy and his sisters ready for bed.

"Bobby-John's movements were also unknown to his father, who was doing work on the land in a JCB. He was unaware of what had happened until he saw Bobby-John on the ground."

Speaking to Bobby-John's mother, Mr Sykes added: "I can't think of what else I can say. Time will help. You won't forget, but I hope it will become easier as time proceeds.

"I hope your husband is coping and I send my deepest condolences."

Man cleared of Securitas charges

A HAIRDRESSER accused of taking part in the £53 million raid on the Tonbridge Securitas depot has been cleared at the Old Bailey.

Michael Demetris, 32, of Bromley, was found not guilty of charges conspiracy to rob, kidnap and possess firearms. Jurors have yet to reach a verdict on Paul Allen, 30, of Chatham, who faces the same charges.

Five people were jailed earlier this year for their parts in the raid in February, 2006, which was Britain's biggest cash robbery.

During the trial, jurors heard claims that Mr Demetris helped produce disguises for the gang but he told the hearing he thought they were for a video game.

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Charity's bringing team sport to an African country recovering from civil war

Fair play helps recovery

A SPORTS charity has just returned from a groundbreaking trip to Sierra Leone – teaching civil war victims how to play cricket.

Cricket for Change sent a group of coaches, including Tony Joseph from Bromley, into remote parts of the country to work alongside the British Army assisting disabled, traumatised and orphaned young people.

The DialAFlight Street20 programme saw young Africans getting their first sight of a bat and a ball in a project to bring hope and enjoyment into lives shattered by a brutal conflict.

By **NICK AMES**
nick.ames@kosmedia.co.uk

"It was an experience to see children who have suffered get involved," said Tony. "I hope we gave them something to remember."

The coaches used a form of the game developed on London's housing estates to bring the sport into the heart of villages in the second poorest country in the world, where teachers earn just 50p a day.

Organiser David Turner said: "The country's young people have seen things no human being, let alone a child, should see. In many cases the best type of therapy for them is to do normal things again day after day after day.

"Most kids love sport but not all like to play football as the game can pass them by if they're not very good or have a disability. Cricket allows every player to have their moment in the spotlight when they can bat, bowl or field at their own pace."

The vicious civil war in the country saw the eventual defeat of the rebel West Side Boys at the hands of Government forces with decisive British help.

UK troops are regarded as heroes for their part in quelling the revolt which saw amputation inflicted on thousands who refused to join the rebels, while whole villages were wiped out.

Amadu Koluma was just nine when his parents were killed by a group of rebels who came through his village early one morning. He ran into the bush and was captured and made to fight alongside other children. He escaped during a fight but was recaptured and punished for running away by having a foot cut off.

Amuda is now part of a team of young adults with a disability helping each other and making a living by creating pots from the panels of abandoned cars. They live in dormitories at the Comforti Centre for Handicapped Development in Freetown and plan to use their skills to make stumps and bats for the Street20 programme.

"I feel so good playing cricket in front of all the people who see me every day as a disabled man," said Amuda.

TEACHING: Major Tom Smith explains how to play cricket to a civil war victim

The British Army plan to help the Comforti Centre by building them new dormitories and supplying soldiers to run coaching on a regular basis. Major Tom Smith sees this as very much part of their role in the International Military Training and Advisory Team.

Last year our readers donated one tonne of books for the village of Kent in Sierra Leone, which campaigners now wish to twin with the county.

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- 8.00 - 9.00 Terry Herbert our Close up Magician and Jack Sparrow will mingle with guests.
- 9.00 - 9.45 Terry Herbert will perform his magic cabaret act live in the media lounge.
- 9.45 - 11.45 Live band Phoenix will be performing on stage in the Poker Room.
- 11.45 Champagne will be given out ready for toast at midnight.
- 11.45 - 12.30 Live DJ will play and see in midnight.
- 12.30 - 1.45 Ultimate ABBA – ABBA tribute band playing live.
- 1.45 Live DJ playing disco music until closing.
- 5am Close

The Poker Room will be set up with the dance floor and the Phoenix and ABBA stages.

Food

- 7pm Canapés will be served.
- 8pm - 11pm Buffet will be served with a delicious selection of hot and cold food.
- 10pm - 3am BBQ food will also be available in the marquee.
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Museum's nostalgic toy display unleashes the wide-eyed inner child in everyone

Exhibition recalls the play we were

THOUSANDS of toys and games – from Victorian dolls and tin-plate trains to Transformers and 1970s video tennis – are being exhibited at a Kent museum, ***writes Jenna Pudelek***.

Featuring items from the past 100 years, the display is guaranteed to stir nostalgia of treasured childhood memories in people of all ages and has already proved popular with the Wii-generation.

Mark Frost, assistant curator at Dover Museum, where the Our Childhood Past exhibition is being held, said: "We wanted to get something that every visitor would recognise and people can come and say, 'I used to have one of those'."

He said local schoolchildren have been treating the exhibition, which has turned the museum into a veritable Santa's grotto, like an after-school club.

"About half the toys are from our collection and the others are loaned from the public. One man had an attic full of toys. It was like a shop – shelf after shelf," he said.

"As well as having cases of dolls and board games, we have a toy shop which we have kitted out from floor to ceiling. We have decorated a room like a 1970s girl's bedroom, with Sindy dolls and Binatone tennis, and a 1950s living room as if children were playing, so there are toys strewn everywhere. The kids love it because they have never seen anything like that before."

Visitors can play with the toys and games, and a screen shows episodes of children's TV shows from the last 50 years, including Captain Pugwash and the Clangers, which were co-created by renowned animator Oliver Postgate, who lived in Broadstairs and died this month, aged 83.

Mr Frost said people who had donated toys to the exhibition had also been recorded talking about them and their memories.

One of the oldest toys at the exhibition is a push-along donkey lent by an 88-year-old man who received it when he was four. The man speaks about how he remembers the day he was given the now threadbare toy.

Mr Frost said he had an amazing time playing with the exhibits as they came in ahead of the show's opening on December 10.

"I had totally forgotten about Frustration, which has been around for years. I'd forgotten how much fun it was. And the Binatone tennis I had in the '70s," he said.

"It was the first games console to plug into your TV. It was revolutionary at the time – absolutely amazing."

The exhibition is the most interactive ever held at the museum, a Dover District Council official said. The toys and games will be on display until September next year and the museum is open throughout the Christmas holidays, except on New Year's Day.

NOSTALGIA TRIP: A bedroom has been kitted out in 1970s style

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BIJOU SCREEN
Brendan Fraser
INKHEART (PG)
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Dr Williams in row over 'Nazi' claims

THE Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Rowan Williams, is risking a row with the Government by inviting a comparison between Gordon Brown's response to the economic downturn and the Nazis.

His comments refer to the potential cost to people of policies to tackle the financial crisis.

In an article for The Daily Telegraph, Dr Williams appears to draw a parallel between the Nazis and the UK Government's policies for tackling the downturn, which he says fails to take account of the "particular human costs" to the most vulnerable.

"What about the... pensioner whose savings have disappeared, the Woolworth's employee, the young executive, let alone the producer of goods in some Third World environment where prices are determined thousands of miles away?" he stated.

The Prime Minister has pledged to spend his way out of the downturn, increasing public borrowing to a record £200m a day.

The Government has also pledged £500 billion of taxpayers' money to bail out the banking system, and cut VAT by 2.5 per cent to get consumers spending again.

But unemployment is predicted to top two million by the New Year as high street names such as Woolworths and MFI go under.

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Snapper Matt's perfect finish

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

A STEALTHY snapshot of a visiting fox earned talented teenager Matt Burrard-Lucas a national photography award.

The 19-year-old from Sevenoaks found himself crawling behind a garden hedge to capture the picture, which was judged as the best in the 12-18 category of the RSPCA Young Photographer Awards.

Matt, who was 18 when he entered the competition, said he was used to his hobby leading him into sticky situations.

He said: "I take a lot of photos abroad when I'm travelling with my family and we usually end up crawling through reeds or traipsing through swamps to get the pictures we want.

"The fox is a regular visitor to my garden but she's extremely shy and had always proved a challenge to photograph. Upon hearing the click of my shutter, she disappeared as quickly as she arrived."

The awards ceremony, hosted by former Blue Peter presenter Matt Baker, was held at the Tower of London.

Competition judge Jean Hosking described Matt's entry as "hugely engaging" with great lighting and excellent framing.

It was the second year running he had received an award, having previously won the Portfolio Prize at the 2007 event.

Matt said: "This award is definitely up there. I've been highly commended a couple of times so to win my category outright this time was very special.

"It was a big surprise when I found out I had won, even though I was fairly confident."

Matt and his older brother William have now set up their own website – www.burrard-lucas.com – which features hundreds of their photographs as well as regular competition updates and blogs.

However, Matt said he had no immediate plans to make a career out of taking pictures.

He said: "Mum was actually the first photographer in the family, then my brother, and naturally I followed.

"I am studying chemistry at Oxford, so it's more a hobby than anything else. I'm not sure what I want to do, but photography is always there for me to fall back on."

The overall winner of the Young Photographer Awards was 11-year-old Molly Armiger, from Suffolk, whose picture of a long-tailed tit was described by the judges as "packing a powerful punch".

EYE TO EYE: This superb picture of a vixen in his garden won a photography prize for teenager Matt Burrard-Lucas, inset

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Free tickets scheme aims to attract younger audiences to county's theatres

YOUNG people are being offered free theatre tickets as part of an initiative to boost attendance by those aged 26 and under.

The Theatre Royal in Margate, the Marlowe and Gulbenkian theatres in Canterbury, Assembly Hall Theatre and Trinity Theatre in Tunbridge Wells and the Churchill, in Bromley, are all to benefit under the Arts Council scheme.

The scheme was announced by the Government in September and the money will be provided over the next two years. The idea could eventually be extended to other arts.

Dr Stephen Ladyman, Labour MP for South Thanet, welcomed the cash boost.

"This is an exciting scheme," he said. "Many young people have no idea what live theatre is like and this will help some experience it for the first time. Theatre can be entertaining, provocative and educational, but many young people never discover that because they never get the chance to step across a theatre's threshold.

"This could open the eyes of many young people to what they have been missing."

The initiative will see 618,000 free theatre tickets given to young people across England over the next two years.

A £10,000 grant has been offered to the Assembly Hall Theatre in Tunbridge Wells and the Performing Arts Network Kent Consortia – which includes Trinity Theatre, the Gulbenkian and Margate's Theatre Royal.

The Churchill will be able to hand out £30,000 of tickets, which will work out as 2,000 free tickets annually for the next two years. Twenty-two theatres across the South East are being given Arts Council grants under the scheme, which starts on February 16.

A website will go online in the New Year with details of local venues and links to book free tickets. Judith Hibberd, the Arts Council's regional head of performing arts, said: "We must make it easy for young people to experience powerful and inspiring art, show them that the arts are for them and hopefully help create a new generation of arts audiences."

BOX OFFICE: The Marlowe in Canterbury is among the theatres due to benefit

Mark Everett, theatre director of the Marlowe, said: "Young people will be at the heart of the new Marlowe and this award will support early work to develop these new audiences."

Derek Nicholls, chief executive of the Churchill, said: "This is a fantastic opportunity for more young people to experience the thrill of live theatre."

The scheme has come about due to £2.5 million of funding from the Department for Culture, Media and Sport.

Attendance at arts events is traditionally low in the 18-26 age range, so the scheme is targeted at young adults and their families.

Liam Shea, creative development manager at the Churchill, said: "This funding supports the work of our creative development department, which is committed to nurturing the audiences, performers and playwrights of tomorrow."

Alan Davey, Arts Council chief executive, said: "Venues have responded to this initiative with energy and imagination."

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Picture: MARTIN ELLIOTT

Jazzing up your New Year's Eve

ANYONE looking for a classy way to spend New Year's Eve could find the solution at the Harbour Café Bar in Margate.

Canterbury-based jazz pianist Frances Knight will be helping revellers to welcome 2009 with an evening of live music, in the latest of a series of gigs linked to the famous Vortex Jazz Club in London.

Knight has written, performed and recorded with artists such as Jan Ponsford, Sarah Jane Morris, Paul Booth and Tony Coe. She also plays with London's hottest Argentine tango band, Los Mareados, and is studying the bandoneon.

Floor singers are invited to take part in the gig and it would be an impressive addition to any CV to say they had performed with Frances Knight.

For more information on how to take part, call the venue or drop in.

Tickets cost £36 including a three-course dinner. To book call the Harbour Café Bar on 01843 290110.

On track for a family day out

WHEN the family games of Monopoly start to lose their appeal, there is still plenty of festive entertainment to be found across Kent.

For the perfect antidote to mince pies and Christmas television, go outdoors for a blast of fresh air at Buckmore Park Kart Circuit, Chatham.

This Sunday aspiring racers can follow in the footsteps of 2008 Formula One Champion Lewis Hamilton at the Have A Go Family Karting Day.

Hamilton was discovered as he sped around the park's tracks in 1996 and the family event, which runs from 10am to 4pm, will give other young hopefuls the chance to indulge their need for speed.

There will be separate 15-minute sessions for different age groups – ages four-seven,

eight-11, 12-16 and 16-plus, so even mums and dads can let off some steam.

With no experience necessary and all equipment supplied, everyone can get behind the wheel and have a go at racing. All participants will receive a full safety briefing before they get in the driver's seat.

Prices start from £12 for a 15-minute session. For more details call 0845 6037964 or visit www.buckmore.co.uk.

Join the castle's trail to twelfth night

FOR a more sedate way to blow away the cobwebs, head to Leeds Castle and take part in the 12 Days of Christmas Trail.

Running until next Sunday, the trail takes visitors on a festive journey around the grounds of the beautiful 12th century castle near Maidstone. Trail cards are free to all visitors with a valid admission ticket and children will receive a certificate when they successfully complete the trail.

Discover the fascinating 900-year history of this stunning castle and enjoy the beauty of its grounds, along with the internationally renowned aviaries and the outdoor playgrounds.

The grounds are open from 10am to 5pm daily, with last entry at 3pm.

Visitors can explore the castle from 10.30am to 4pm. Tickets cost £15/£12.50 for adults and £9.50 for children. Find out more online at www.leeds-castle.com or call 01622 765400.

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KARTING

Picture: NEVILLE BUCK

Go on safari without leaving the country

TAKE a walk on the wild side on New Year's Day with a breathtaking safari at Port Lympne Wild Animal Park.

The 600-acre park near Hythe is home to the largest breeding herd of black rhino outside Africa and its group of 25 Western Lowland gorillas welcomed its newest baby just weeks ago.

Riding a specially commissioned safari vehicle through the 100-acre African Experience site, visitors could spot giraffe, zebra, wildebeest, ostrich, black rhino, sitatunga, blue wildebeest, eland, Defassa waterbuck, red lechwe, Grant's and Grevy's zebras and more.

Each safari tour will be accompanied by a guide who will answer questions about conservation projects and the animals. Set against the backdrop of the Romney Marsh, it is a fantastic way to enjoy the Kent countryside and Africa's spectacular wildlife in the same place.

Safaris leave at 10am and noon and places must be booked in advance. Admission costs £12 for adults, £9 for children and is free for under-fours.

See www.totallywild.net or call 01303 264647 for details.

Harvesting a sophistication

RESTAURANT REVIEW

By **JAMIE MCGINNES**

HARVESTER has unveiled a new evening menu designed to "bring a touch of glamour" to the chain.

It says it has made an effort to offer a more "sophisticated" night out by adding a selection of new starters, mains and desserts.

The new menu includes dishes such as goat's cheese and beetroot tart, or crispy squid to start, premium fish dishes such as pan-roasted cod loin, and crusted hake, and a selection of curries, including spit-roast Caribbean curry.

Other Harvester Select main dishes include Oriental duck, slow-cooked minted lamb shank, grilled Asian pork belly, and the 10oz black and blue rib-eye steak. Finally, for those looking for something sweet, the new range features desserts such as lemon tart.

The New Inn Harvester in Hayes and The Crooked Billet in Bromley are among Kent restaurants to change their menus.

After being invited by Harvester, Review visited both restaurants to taste the new offerings – and was generally pleased with the results. Opposite Hayes rail station, The New Inn is a grand building, packed with character inside.

The goat's cheese and beetroot tart (£4.75) was as good as any I had tasted at more expensive eateries and the 6oz fillet steak (15.50) was grilled to perfection. Their Naughty & Nice dessert (£4.95) topped off a great meal, consisting of two mini pots, one filled with chocolate and the other with

berries and served with Italian biscuit.

My partner was similarly pleased with her Crackerjack king prawns (£3.75) to start, grilled sea bass (£11.95) and lemon tart (£4.25). Although the choice was there, neither of us opted for any of the unlimited extra salad also on offer.

At The Crooked Billet, more modern than The New Inn, but very spacious and comfortable, I started with a Harvest Feastival (£6.95), which consisted of flame-grilled barbecue chicken wings, breaded mushrooms, king prawns, corn on the cob and onion rings, plus dips.

This unfortunately failed to live up to my memory of the goat's cheese and beetroot tart. The onion rings were fine, but the chicken lacked much meat and the breaded mushrooms tasted a bit bland.

My partner enjoyed her crispy squid (£4.25), as well as her main course of chicken with a jacket potato and peas (£7.50).

I had a disappointing experience, however, in one of Harvester's new 'Select Premium Classic' selection – oriental duck (£11.95). I'm a big fan of duck, particularly curried, at Thai and Chinese restaurants so I was really looking forward to tucking in. Sadly, I did not find it very tasty and thought it lacked enough sauce and egg noodles.

To finish, I picked the delicious Truffled by Chocolate (£3.50); described as "seriously rich and indulgent layers of white, dark and milk chocolate, served on a brownie base". My girlfriend was happy with her choice of fresh fruit skewers (£3.99), consisting of melon, pineapple and strawberries, served with ice cream.

Both Harvesters exceeded our expectations with the overall very good quality of food and we would definitely consider going back.

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WOMEN for MEN

SENSITIVE, shy and caring lady, 20, loves life and sunsets, beaches, country walks, romantic meals, cinema, WLTM handsome gent to find love with. Box 446323

SINGLE mum, 23, nice and curvy, 5ft6, blonde, blue eyes, likes shopping, cinema and animals. WLTM an honest and trustworthy male, 28-38. Box 446099 **TXT**

FUN to be with blonde female, 25, 5ft2, loves football(!), going out and staying in, looking for a like-minded man to be my soulmate. Box 446494 **TXT**

SEEKING fun, friendship, maybe more. WLTM fun man 25-30. I'm female, 26, brown hair/blue eyes, average build. Box 445622 **TXT P**

HI I'm 27, redhead, 5ft1, blue eyes, intelligent, open-minded, caring, loves going out, music, good meals, seeking friendship and snuggles with caring, understanding gent. Box 446786 **TXT**

SOCIAL, genuine, honest, single mum, 36, 5ft6. I've got hazel eyes and dark hair and enjoy the cinema, meals out. WLTM sincere, attractive, genuine male. Box 446840 **TXT**

ASHFORD based woman looking for an honest, friendly, caring and loving man. I have 2 kids and enjoy the usual things in life. Box 446985 **TXT**

SINGLE mum, 37, fun-loving, been hurt in past, looking for nice, genuine guy for hopeful happiness - no time wasters! Box 908053 **TXT P**

LOVELY female, 36, 5ft4, medium-large build, blonde hair, blue eyes, own house, loves walking, going out, the usual! Seeking male for long-term/serious relationship. Box 438102 **TXT**

LOVING female, 36, 5ft4, brown hair, green eyes, likes socialising, staying in, seeks genuine male for friendship and more. Box 428666 **TXT**

37YR old female, 2 kids, slim, brown hair and eyes, 5ft2, looking for a caring, loving, honest and trusting male to be my someone special. Box 446552 **TXT**

GOOD looking woman, 37, 5ft2, brown hair/eyes, 2 kids. Looking for new friends and hopefully someone special. Box 446039 **TXT**

38YR old African girl, likes cooking, going out, watching films and dancing, seeking a loving and caring boy for companionship and more. Box 446676 **TXT**

CARING sensitive female, 39, looking for fun, friendly, outgoing male who likes astrology, walks, cinema, eating in/out and more. Box 444498 **TXT**

LONELY, bored, professional Tunbridge Wells Asian lady, 40, WLTM slim, single, solvent, professional white male 40-50 for company, fun, love and laughter. Box 443573 **TXT**

SHY female, 40, 5ft9, blue eyes, short blonde hair, medium build, loves going out, wining and dining, holidays; seeking likewise gentleman to bee happy with. Box 446763 **TXT**

BUBBLY 40yr old female, enjoys beaches, pubs, clubs. WLTM a like-minded, caring male to share fun times with. Box 435102 **TXT**

ATTRACTIVE woman, 41, 5ft6, blonde hair/blue eyes. I'd like to meet a guy for romance and fun, I enjoy cinema, pubs, meals out. Box 447009 **TXT**

MEDIUM build woman, 41, 5ft2, kind, caring, loving and tactile, GSOH, looking to meet a nice man for a LTR. Box 446890 **TXT**

WLTM a nice guy with a similar nature; I'm an outgoing woman, 42, with brown hair and green eyes. Tell me about you! Box 446847 **TXT**

I'M a 42 year old professional lady, long dark hair, brown eyes, petite with a wacky SOH. Looking for friends to chill with, then who knows? Box 884441 **TXT**

CARING lovable lady, 42, genuine, short brown hair, lacks confidence! seeking loyal, genuine person, someone special to put the spark back into my life. Box 885761 **TXT**

GOOD-LOOKING slim blonde, 42, tired of kissing frogs, seeking an intelligent, solvent professional male to be my prince. Box 446521 **TXT**

VERY attractive female, 42, slim, green eyes, high cheek bones, wicked SOH! Loves to make people laugh, seeking intelligent, well-mannered, kind man for friendship/relationship. Box 446543 **TXT**

LAID-BACK single mum, very bubbly, outgoing and intelligent, 43, enjoys social life, drinks, meals, cinema; looking to start afresh with someone new, easygoing and lifeloving. Box 446102 **TXT**

KIND, loving and caring mum, 43, 5ft5, round but cuddly! Just looking for someone to share my life with...how about you? St. Leonards-on-Sea. Box 446457 **TXT**

PASSIONATE and fun-loving 43yr old female, enjoys clubbing, meals out and cooking, WLTM a male to share evenings out with. Box 445225 **TXT**

SINGLE lady, 43, likes gardening, eating out, cinema, music and more, seeking male for friendship and maybe more. Box 446991 **TXT**

I'M a bubbly, confident, friendly PA, lives in Medway, enjoys playing sports, being on/in the water! I enjoy life and look on the bright side. Box 884052 **TXT P**

BUBBLY blonde, 44, stupid and like having a laugh, good company, friendship, would like to meet new friends for hopeful love... Box 888162 **TXT**

HARD working single mum, young 44yr old, 5ft5, medium build, enjoys dining out, holidays, cinema and walks, WLTM a caring and genuine male for friendship/relationship. Box 444751 **TXT**

BUBBLY female, 44, brunette, N/S, medium/large build, enjoys singing and theatre. Would love to meet a decent fun-loving guy, similar age, pref non-smoker for LTR. Box 445955 **TXT**

DEAL-BASED lady, 43, divorced, brunette, green eyes, 5ft10, likes going out, pubs, clubs, cinema, shopping, walks, loves films and all sports except cricket. Box 430384 **TXT P**

FUN extrovert person, 45, likes cinema, going out, meals, socialising, 5ft7, dark brown hair/eyes, curvy, seeking nice guy to start off as friends with. Box 442905 **TXT**

HI I'm 44, slim, 5ft8, a redhead, love nights out, socialising, looking for friendship initially and hopefully more later on. Box 889800 **P**

WARM, radiant, witty, intelligent, attractive, black female, Christian, 44, likes music, jazz, travel, art, restaurants, theatre, seeking a cultured, N/S, intelligent, solvent gentleman. Box 433075 **TXT**

SINCERE, happy woman, with GSOH. I'm 5ft6, with short brown hair, brown eyes. I have lots of interests and WLTM similar guy. Box 895019 **TXT**

CARING, cute female, 46, petite, likes socialising, dancing, travelling, good food, seeking intelligent, loyal man 42-62 for love and TLC. Seaford. Box 444366 **TXT**

BLONDE hair/blue eyes, 5ft5, slim, looking for friendship, maybe more.. I'm a nice woman, 47, seeking good male, for friendship, possibly more. Box 445932 **TXT**

YOUNG-LOOKING, slim, attractive female, 48, fun-loving, outgoing, N/S, GSOH, love music, holidays, going out, staying in, seeks similar man, 42-50. Aylesford. Box 428833 **TXT**

GENUINE, friendly female, 49, likes walks, gardening, nights in/out, seeking genuine, friendly male, 45-55. Dover. Box 435441 **TXT**

HELP me write my stand-up comedy routine! I'm 49, you'll need to make me laugh out loud and understand observational comedy to make the grade. Box 892640 **TXT**

PETITE, brunette, bubbly, friendly, easygoing single mum, 49, enjoys cinema, eating out, socialising, most things, WLTM genuine male, to see where life takes us! Box 893562 **TXT**

CHEERFUL, honest, popular blonde, 50yrs old, 5ft2, slim, looking to find an honest, loyal man that can make me happy again. Box 887347 **TXT**

PETITE, blonde female, 50, GSOH, likes music, books, films, cooking, looking for romantic soulmate, 40-55, for TLC. Kent. Box 835181 **TXT P**

CURVY & cuddly, outgoing, friendly, honest female, 53, 5ft7, larger build, fair hair, likes socialising, country walks, theatre, cinema, music, swimming, WLTM similar loving male. Box 443642 **TXT**

ATTRACTIVE female, 53, intelligent, kind, funny, non-smoking, WLTM nice, kind, normal male, 50-60, for theatre, laughs and more. Box 446383

KIND, caring, attractive lady, young 53, 5'7", slim, brown hair/eyes. N/S, GSOH, enjoys walking, reading, travel, socialising; seeking tall, considerate, honest gent for hopeful LTR. Box 446079 **TXT**

GORGEOUS slim attractive young-looking female, 54, active, wicked SOH, 5ft5, blue eyes, sociable, loves music, dancing, travelling; seeking warm, sincere man for genuine companionship. Box 446634 **TXT**

55YR old woman, brown hair/blue eyes, 5ft2. I'm divorced with a grown up family. I enjoy reading, travel, cinema, music, eating out. WLTM caring, genuine man. Box 446798 **TXT**

INTELLIGENT lady, 55, 5ft8, large build, looking for a nice, genuine male who enjoys theatre, meals, laughter, music, relaxing and good conversation. Box 444145 **TXT**

SUE, 56yr old, 5ft4, green eyes, petite, loves cooking, holidays, reading and swimming, WLTM a tall professional male, similar age, for friendship and romance. Box 443309 **TXT**

AFRICAN lady, 58, likes reading, current affairs and travelling, WLTM an outgoing, fun-loving and honest male to share the rest of my life with. Box 445122 **TXT**

GLAMOROUS blonde, 50s. I'm friendly and enjoy photography, country walks, antiques, gardening etc. Non-smoker, divorced, 5ft4, average build. WLTM attractive guy, easy-to-get-on-with, 55-62, with GSOH. Box 445603 **TXT**

POSITIVE, vivacious female, 59, 5ft4, enjoys art, seaside walks and music, seeks tallish, kind, caring male to grow old with...disgracefully. Box 444943 **TXT**

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DIVORCED lonely female, 61, 5ft6, slim, looking for similar male with GSOH for chats, dates, friendship and perhaps more. Box 446987 **TXT**

USEFUL, intelligent, caring female, 62, young looking/acting, like walks, music, cooking, seeking sensitive, caring, un-complicated male, N/S, perhaps a dog owner, for friendship first. Box 434345 **TXT**

Women for women

CURVY bi female, 32, seeks like-minded woman, for friendship, hopefully more. Single mum, work part time. Box 886142 **TXT P**

EASYGOING female, 40, blue eyes, blonde hair, medium build, likes wining, dining, socialising, holidays, walks cinema; seeking likewise female for companionship and more. Box 446953 **TXT**

YOUNG-LOOKING attractive female, 54, N/S, friendly and sociable, love music, dance and history, warm and sparkly, WLTM a genuine female for a close female friendship. Box 445146 **TXT**

MEN for WOMEN

WELL-MANNERED and honest builder and DJ, 32, 6ft, brown hair, blue eyes, good build, WLTM a nice and attractive lady, 27-42, to enjoy life with. Box 446239

VERY sporty male, 33, 6ft2, muscular, green-blue eyes, dark hair, likes clubs, pubs, socialising, seeking female to relax/have fun with, perhaps more. Box 444221 **TXT**

OUTGOING, confident guy, 39, 6ft, tanned, athletic build, brown eyes, shaved head, loves going out/staying in and music, laid-back attitude seeking like-minded lady. Box 151143 **TXT**

33YR old fun-loving lad, WLTM someone beautiful and intelligent to sweep from her feet and fall in love with. Box 446369

SINGLE dad, 34, I love pubs, clubs, socialising, eating out, motor racing. WLTM kind, honest lady. I'm 5ft10, with blue eyes/dark brown hair. Box 883971 **TXT**

CARING, thoughtful male 35, likes clubbing, travel, eating out, cinema, music, theatre, sports, yoga, seeks female for friendship and more. GSOH. Box 884008 **TXT**

NORMAL down-to-earth guy 5ft9, short hair, brown eyes, medium build, 34, love to meet female any age for outgoing, fun, friendly times and maybe more. Box 446154 **TXT**

OUTGOING male, 34, loves bowling and cosy nights in. WLTM an out-going, bubbly and kind-hearted female to spend the rest of my life with. Box 445567 **TXT**

SINCERE down-to-earth male, 36, 5ft11, dark blonde, blue eyes, clean, passionate, seeking genuine black female with great personality, looks/size/religion unimportant, for fun, friendship... Box 447034 **TXT**

HI I'm 36, Asian, medium build, enjoys many activities, seeking a white woman 18-33 for interesting encounters. Box 447151

SEPARATED male, 37, 6ft, slim, good looks, N/S, GSOH, kind, caring, sensual, likes keeping fit, movies, nights in/out; seeks caring, slim, active female for LTR. Box 445729 **TXT P**

HAPPY-GO-LUCKY male, 37yr old, slim, dark hair, enjoys clubs, pubs and cosy nights in, WLTM a lady, 25-42, for a relationship. Tunbridge Wells. Box 442670 **TXT**

LEE, driver, 36yr old, 6ft3, dark hair, like pubs, clubs, wine bars, places of interest, sports and reading, WLTM a woman for friendship and romance. Box 889720 **TXT**

ATTRACTIVE, caring man, 37, very loyal, genuine, down-to-earth, from East Kent, many interests, it's about who you're with, not what you're doing. Box 423435 **TXT**

I'M Stuart, 36, 6ft6, short dark hair, stocky build, love squash, badminton, swimming, the gym, theatre, seeking a fun-loving, nice lady for loyalty/love. Box 437106 **TXT**

MARGATE man, 37, 6ft3, dark hair, nice big build. I work in residential care which I love. I'm down-to-earth, kind, tactile, with a GSOH. Box 423437 **TXT P**

DOWN-TO-EARTH, loyal guy, 36, looking for companionship, leading to a long-term relationship. Enjoys meals out, good company, conversation, cosy evenings in. Box 914917 **TXT P**

SLIM build, 38yr old male, 5ft11, green eyes, single dad with 3 kids, enjoys theatre, dining out, walks and life, WLTM special lady for possible LTR. Box 886602 **TXT P**

HI I'm Andrew, 38, 6ft3, dark hair, blue eyes, hardworking guy, friendly, tactile, outgoing, likes enjoying life, WLTM easygoing female for friendship/relationship. Box 443488 **TXT**

HI, I'm Mark, 6ft, slim/medium build, lots of interests including motorcycles, WLTM a kind and honest female to share fun and laughter with. Box 445124 **TXT P**

GOOD-LOOKING male, 36, short spiky brown hair, likes dancing, socialising, films, WLTM nice, loyal, honest female, 30-42, for LTR. Maidstone. Box 401597 **TXT P**

CHRIS, 39, 5ft7, stocky, green-blue eyes, short hair, Virgo, GSOH, love swimming, walks on beaches, days out, seeking similar female, for loving times. Box 440167 **TXT**

OUTGOING young-minded male, 47, a smoker, likes war games, books, cinema, castles, POI, seeking similar woman to boogie on the dancefloor with. Box 443750 **TXT**

DOWN-TO-EARTH male, great personality, 41, 6ft, medium build, loves the countryside, wine bars, cinema, sports; seeking female with great personality, honest and trustworthy. Box 446596 **TXT**

MY name is Steve, 41yrs young, 5ft7, normal build, looking for good company and fun with a female of height. GSOH is a must! Box 885615 **TXT P**

GENUINE single fella, 41, worked hard all my life now need to find love, seeking loving lady to have loads of fun/more with. Box 884098 **TXT**

ATTRACTIVE guy, nice to be with, laid-back, I'm 41, 5ft9, medium-stocky, brown hair. Own business and home, enjoys walks, pubs, wine, restaurants, cinema. Box 437225 **TXT**

GENTLE male, 42, brown eyes, medium build, works hard, own place, seeking similar female, no hassle/ties, to enjoy cinema, conversation, eating out and more with. Box 444952 **TXT**

CARING, understanding, not bad-looking, romantic male, 42, grey-silver hair, stocky, enjoys cooking, quiet nights in, seeks female, for romance, more. Box 157789 **TXT**

HI, I'm Steve, 40s, 6ft2, muscular build, likes pubs/clubs and sport, WLTM a female, 40-46, for an everlasting relationship. Box 445541 **TXT**

SINGLE male, 43, no ties, very genuine, slim, 6ft4, brown hair, green eyes, loves sport and soul music, WLTM a female to date. Box 445760

LIVERPUDLIAN male, 43, loves football, works for the NHS, loves fun and going to movies, seeking female to share a date with and maybe more. Box 446633 **TXT**

LONELY single male, 44, 6ft2, fair hair, great SOH, quite happy but looking for a lady 30-60 to have fun with and hopefully something else. Box 446452 **TXT**

HI, I'm Steve, 45, brown hair, blue eyes, slim/medium build, likes sea fishing, cooking, DIY. Looking for a nice lady to share nice things with. Box 445891

VERY romantic, caring and loyal male, 44, slim, blue eyes, fair hair, great SOH, seeks female with similar interests for hopeful LTR. No time-wasters! Hastings. Box 446120 **TXT**

HELLO, I'm Jim, 6ft, 44, interests include, eating out, cinema and swimming, WLTM a lady with similar interests and GSOH. Box 445650 **TXT**

YOUNG-LOOKING, slim male, 43yr old, 5ft10, enjoys beach walks and cinema, WLTM a mature lady for a committed long term relationship. Margate. Box 441706 **TXT**

RECENTLY widowed dad, 45, silvery-dark hair, friendly, humorous, interested in a fun-loving, caring woman who's preferably Roman Catholic, for LTR. Box 884155 **TXT**

DEPENDABLE, easygoing guy, I love animals, good food, music, films, good conversation, country pubs. I'm 45, with blue eyes,. Box 446761 **TXT**

PROFESSIONAL male, 45, own home/car, likes cinemas, weekends away, the coast, a BBQ and good wine, looking for friendship, hopefully more. Box 426202 **TXT**

I work in catering and WLTM nice, laid back woman, 40+, I'm male, 47, young looking, newly back on the dating scene! Box 447106 **TXT**

SLIM/ATHLETIC guy, 5ft11, dark hair/blue eyes, short hair. I like music, animals, sport. Seeking woman for serious relationship. I'm a happy chap, just missing something! Box 447108 **TXT**

NEW to area, I'm a 47yr old chap, I ride a motorcycle and I'm looking for an uncomplicated woman. Box 447110 **TXT P**

LOVING, fun, outgoing guy, 48, 6ft3, medium build, blue eyes. Looking for friendship and maybe more, lets see! Box 447112

YOUTHFUL dad, 45, 5'10", brown hair, med build, divorcee, likes pubs, cinema, restaurants, theme parks, WLTM female, 36-45, slim, for possible LTR. Cranbrook. Box 737529 **TXT P**

ATTRACTIVE black male, 6ft, 48, fit and healthy, I like swimming, a social drink. WLTM white lady, Kent based, someone fun to be with. Box 447073 **TXT**

SLIM male, 48, 6ft, dark brown hair, eyes, attractive, animated, confident, eclectic, seeking soulmate 43-53 forever. Box 446553 **TXT**

FIT male, 49, 5ft7, brown eyes, short hair, muscly, likes football, sports, walking' I'm outgoing, seeking a similar woman for good times. Box 446719 **TXT**

SEEKING female company. I enjoy films, walking, popping down the rugby club, quiet drinks etc. I'm male, 52, 6ft tall, fair hair/blue eyes. Box 446278 **TXT**

HONEST and loyal, 53yr old guy, 6ft tall, considered attractive. I'm easygoing, with a GSOH. Looking for female company, to socialise with. I like DIY, gardening. Box 884003 **TXT**

I'M 53, 5ft9, good-looking! Love sports, horses, animals generally, WLTM an honest, caring lady, preferably blonde & sporty, to get to know. Box 439298 **TXT**

DAVE, 54, 5ft5, medium build, semi-retired, loves dancing, cinema, sport and holidays, seeking a special female for a special relationship. Box 443827 **TXT**

EASYGOING professional, 56, full working order, GSOH, enjoys outdoor life, travel, romantic nights in, WLTM tactile soulmate to light up my life, for life. Box 445059 **TXT P**

GOOD-NATURED male, 55, 5'5", average build/looks, likes coastal/country walks, current affairs, usual interests, WLTM similar female. Dover. Box 161359 **TXT**

WHITE male, 62, 5ft10, grey hair, likes the countryside, travel, watching sport, gardening; seeking non-smoking lady of similar age to share life, Dover. Box 446326 **TXT P**

Men for men

HI, I'm 40, 6ft, green eyes, blond, own house, enjoy pubs, keeping fit, seeking similar male, sporty, for fun, maybe more. Box 436788 **TXT**

DOWN-TO-EARTH genuine person, 50, 5ft10, of not bad looks, caring, honest and lots of love to give, seeks LTR. Box 884844 **TXT P**

HAPPY-GO-LUCKY male, 50, 5ft10, blond hair, green eyes, slender build, into most things, looking for straight-acting men for friendship and more. Genuine replies only. Maidstone. Box 889297 **TXT**

MATURE, bi guy, 50, 6ft, large build, likes nights in, looking for gent, 60+, for regular meets, hopefully LTR. Box 897705 **TXT**

KEEP-FIT male, 55, white hair, slim, loves the arts, cooking, entertaining, theatre/opera/ballet, walks on beaches; seeking man to hug and spoil. Box 447141 **TXT**

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TALL, attractive, good-hearted African female, 28yr old, enjoys films, good food and cuddles, WLTM a white male for friendship and romance. Box 441654 **TXT**

EASYGOING female, 32, enjoys shopping, football, eating out, cosy night in, WLTM loving, caring white male 35-47 for long term loving relationship. Box 444214 **TXT**

32YR old, 5ft9, brown hair, curvy figure, enjoys having fun and a laugh and WLTM nice, kind gent. Box 439402 **TXT**

PRETTY black female, 32, tall, loves watching football, shopping, travel, seeking tall, white, loving male, 34-47, for LTR. Chatham. Box 437778 **TXT**

31YR old bubbly, fun-loving female, like reading, cinema, looking for tall, dark and handsome male, GSOH, for happy times. Brighton. Box 438057 **TXT**

CARING, loving, affectionate female, 30, 5'2", blonde, likes walking, horse riding, animals, seeks affectionate male, 30-40, for lasting, loving relationship. Box 384013 **TXT**

SINGLE mum, 32, cuddly larger lady, 5ft8, dark brown hair, seeking someone to have fun, a dance, some drinks, meals and more with. Box 438941 **TXT**

SINGLE mum of 2, 32, WLTM someone kind, caring and considerate, for nights in/out and cinema. Ryan from Whitstable, please call again, leave contact details! Box 406670 **TXT**

ATTRACTIVE, 31, 5'4", size 12, dark hair with blonde highlights, tactile, WLTM intelligent, professional, attractive guy, for a happy relationship. Tunbridge Wells. Box 308734 **TXT P**

PRETTY black female, 38, 5ft4, like football, socialising and cooking, looking for a loving and caring male, 38-42, for a LTR. Box 446684 **TXT**

CUTE single mum of 4, 38yrs old, Kent based, into most things, looking for friendship or possibly romance. Box 897983 **TXT**

TALL leggy brunette, 38, recently bereaved, enjoy meals out or nights in, dry white wine, a good movie & cuddles, seeking a male for companionship. Box 887404

ATTRACTIVE 38yr old female, dark brown hair, blue eyes, curvy physique, likes days out, music, concerts, cinema, walking, cycling, seeks loving, fun male, for friendship/relationship. Box 901893 **TXT P**

BUBBLY, cuddly, blonde single mum, 38, 5'6", likes cars, reading, pubs, cosy nights in, having a laugh, looking for that right male for LTR. Box 905614 **TXT P**

NURSE, 37yrs, 2 kids, 5ft8, blonde hair, blue eyes, likes the gym, cooking, swimming, salsa dancing, looking for a kind, caring, loyal male. Box 431557 **TXT**

LOVELY pretty big-busted lady, 39, medium build, 5ft5, lots of energy! likes the gym, reading, new experiences! seeking a nice man for potential exciting relationship! Box 446724 **TXT**

TUNBRIDGE Wells lady, brown hair/eyes, 38. I'm a teacher and love theatre, reading, cinema, swimming, travel. Looking for like minded chap for happy times. Box 444923 **TXT**

SEPARATED brilliant brunette, 39, single mum, 5ft7, likes swimming and house music, WLTM a kind and considerate tall white male with dark shoulder length hair. Box 445684 **TXT**

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28/12/08

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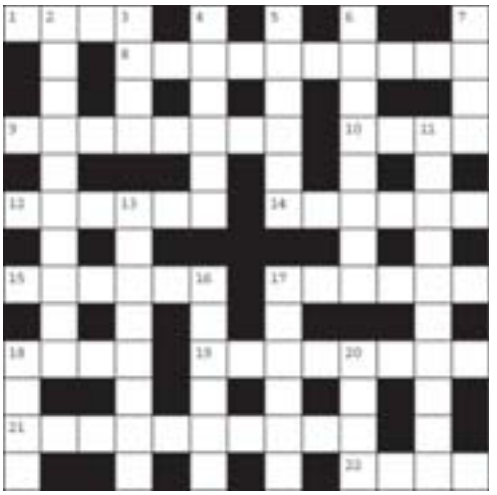
Waterstone's in Tunbridge Wells will present a £10 book token for the correct entry of the cryptic crossword picked at random. Send your completed grids to KoS, Prize Crossword, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford TN25 6SR. Closing date is Wednesday, December 31, 2008.

No 315



CROSSWORD No 315

Name.....

Address .....

.....

.....

CRYPTIC CLUES

ACROSS
1. Chooses a different spot (4)
8. Ruffle a sea-expert perhaps (10)
9. It shows intelligence! (4-4)
10. Country in Asia-Minor (4)
12. Wanders away from the street lights (6)
14. Not a good mark to get (6)
15. Manage to show the way (6)
17. They're laid down by our betters (6)
18. This preposition is involved in the end (4)
19. Shows part of a book on insects (8)
21. One may have to pick one's way here (10)
22. Has scattered snow (4)

DOWN
2. Not very exciting for one lacking drive (10)
3. Looks up and down (4)
4. They may be cut and pickled (6)
5. Upsets to make light of (6)
6. Nudists dislike this sauce (8)
7. Some light or heavy timber (4)
11. One may be lost in it (10)
13. The porter of this house is often drunk (8)
16. They start to perspire – from over-drinking? (6)
17. The home of the brave (6)
18. Chin out – but not far (4)
20. Too wrapped up in local society (4)

QUICK CLUES

1. Barrel (4)
8. Impracticable (10)
9. Conclusive (8)
10. Every (4)
12. Take risks (6)
14. Revolt (6)
15. Expand (6)
17. Ignoble (6)
18. At one time (4)
19. Shrink (8)
21. Valued too low (10)
22. Pitcher (4)

DOWN
2. Change (10)
3. N. Zealand bird (4)
4. Elf (6)
5. Regard (6)
6. Manager (8)
7. Network (4)
11. Appropriate (10)
13. Bangle (8)
16. Accompany (6)
17. Reason (6)
18. Responsibility (4)
20. Offensive (4)

QUICK SOLUTIONS 315: ACROSS: 1 Cask; 8 Impossible; 9 Decisive; 10 Each; 12 Gamble; 14 Mutiny; 15 Dilate; 17 Sordid; 18 Once; 19 Contract; 21 Underrated; 22 Ewer. Down: 2 Alteration; 3 Kiwi; 4 Sprite; 5 Esteem; 6 Director; 7 Mash; 11 Confiscate; 13 Bracelet; 16 Escort; 17 Sanity; 18 Onus; 20 Rude.

• The winner of the last crossword (no 314) will be printed in next week's paper

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For all our Traffic Regulation Orders, please go to page **40**.

Monkey business is job of conservation project

EARLIER this month the son of Thanet North MP Roger Gale was stranded in Thailand during the protests that brought air travel from Bangkok to a standstill. **TOM GALE** and his new wife Basma were due back from their honeymoon and, faced with an enforced extension of their holiday, they put the time to good advantage. On the island of Phuket the couple discovered a small, underfunded and unsung conservation project. Now, safely back at their home in Preston, near Wingham, they are determined to help to further the work of the volunteers. Here Tom explains the work of the project and how you can help secure its future…

ON the popular holiday island of Phuket and in other parts of Thailand, gibbon monkeys are illegally kept as pets and as tourist attractions.

The only way to acquire a young gibbon is to take it from the wild by first shooting its mother and father. The capture of one young monkey can involve the deaths of three entire families.

Mother gibbons often nurse their offspring for up to seven years. When a mother is shot and her young fall from the tree with her many die.

It is estimated that only one in three of the young monkeys even survives the fall.

Most of these babies are then used on the beach where unsuspecting visitors pay to have photographs with the captive animals.

No matter what the photographers may tell their clients, what they are doing is strictly illegal and as a result of the poaching much of Thailand's diminishing lowland rainforest is now under-populated with gibbons.

The Gibbon Rehabilitation Project, known locally just as the GRP has been trying, for nearly 17 years, to help reverse the process of theft and destruction.

Founded in 1992 by the chief of the Royal Forest Department, Khun Noppadol Preuksawan, with additional support from Terrence Dillon Morin, the GRP is hidden away in a corner of the Icheo Theaw Non-Hunting Area, a national park.

The GRP receives some support from the Asian Wildlife Fund and the Wild Animal Foundation of Thailand, but is staffed mainly by volunteers and is funded by public subscriptions from visitors.

The volunteers, in addition to giving a few months of their time, also make a financial contribution to its work and upkeep.

The project is a Thai-run organisation and the only group of its kind carrying out its specialised work. Its goal is quite simply to save the gibbons and their rainforest habitat from hunting and possible eradication.

When we visited it the sanctuary was hosting

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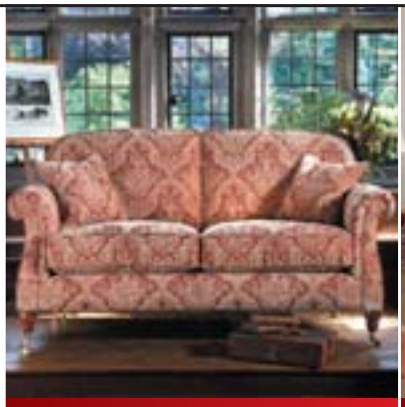

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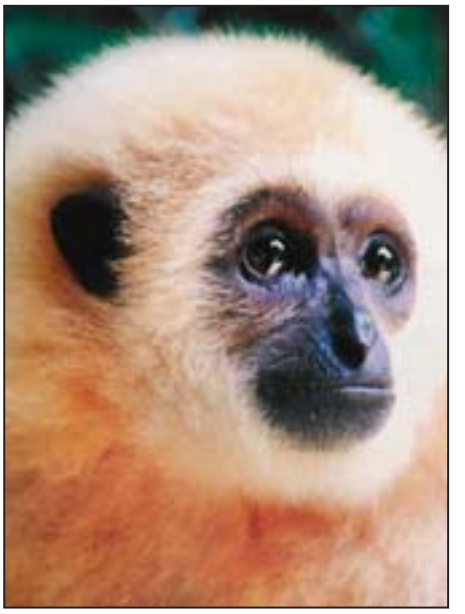
HELPING HANDS: Tom Gale and his wife Basma (left) are keen to help raise fund for the rehabilitation project that aims to release gibbons back into their natural habitat.

BACK HOME: Nat's (far right) father was killed by hunters when he and his parents were released into the lowland rainforests



several dozen gibbon monkeys and we were told the demand for the rehabilitation is growing.

The GRP works with animals that have been confiscated by the police or handed in by their 'owners' when they grow too large to become of interest or use.

These animals can live for up to 40 years and the older males, particularly, can become aggressive and dangerous.

After rehabilitation they are, whenever possible, reintroduced to the canopy of the lowland rainforests from which they have been stolen but, sadly, until they can be released into the wild they have to be kept in cages.

Every gibbon arriving at the rehabilitation project receives a medical check that includes blood tests for various diseases and then it goes into quarantine.

The rehabilitation process involves going through a series of environments which encourage a return to natural behaviour and food and offers maximum contact with other monkeys and minimum contact with humans.

The monkeys are socialised as families and encouraged to breed.

It can be several painstaking years before a group that is considered suitable and able to survive by themselves is released and then the problems may only just be beginning.

An example involved one of the gibbons named Nat and his mother and father who were released in the national park hunting-free area. Nat's father was shot by hunters seeking food and Nat and his mother are now back in the sanctuary and unlikely to be released again.

Like others unable to live in the wild, they are housed on small artificial islands on which they can live free from cages, but without harm to themselves or others.

ALL of this work costs money to provide the necessary holding cages, food, veterinary care and scientific equipment.

Basma and I think this is a very worthwhile and well-run conservation project and, having been treated so well by the Thai people when we needed help ourselves, we want to try to give a little back by raising funds to support the Gibbon Rehabilitation Project.

If you would like to contribute please either pay money directly into the Wild Animal Rescue Foundation account, No 573-0.158143, Thalang Branch, Bankok Bank or send a cheque made out to the Kent-based Animals Worldwide charity, 215a Canterbury Road, Birchington CT7 9AH.

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KENT ON SUNDAY

COMMENT

Simple answer to grammar problem

EDUCATION experts have warned Kent needs another grammar school to cope with the growing numbers of pupils forced from private education by the credit crunch.

As the recession deepens and employees face predictions of further redundancies in the New Year, many parents are surely looking at the tens of thousands of pounds that can be saved yearly on school fees.

Due to the selective schools system in Kent, grammars are among the best and top performing state schools. However, especially in the west of the county, they are oversubscribed – meaning 11-year-olds face even more competition trying to pass the Kent Test and win a place and many more are sure to be disappointment.

Parents also face a struggle to get their children into the top non-selective schools as many have long waiting lists.

The level of demand for grammar schools is already high and the pressure for places looks set to increase further, therefore the argument for the Government to allow more capacity grows stronger.

Unless the Government takes decisive action to scrap selection completely it seems nonsensical not to meet the demand.

Look to the future

KOS Media would like to wish its readers and advertisers a happy New Year.

It has been a year overshadowed by the gloom of the credit crunch and frightening shifts in the global money markets.

But there has also been increased concern from all corners about the environment and climate change.

Let's hope that 2009 brings many positive changes for all our futures.

OPINION: County is our business

KCC leader Paul Carter looks back on a good year and hopes to continue this success

CHRISTMAS and the New Year is, as always, a good time to reflect on the past and look forward to what the future holds.

We are all delighted at the success of Kent's 220,000 pupils, delivering the best ever exam results at all key stages.

It's a testament that our journey of transformation in education and skills is having a significant impact on the way teachers are teaching and children are learning. We will continue to build on this success and strive to provide education and training that meets the ambitions, aspirations and abilities of all our young.

Kent County Council has spent the year under the microscope of various government inspections looking into all aspects of our services; education, care for older people and child protection to name just a few, and I am pleased to say we have come through with flying colours. A reflection of the quality of services and the commitment of KCC's 40,000 staff.

In addition, wearing my hat as chair of the Kent Partnership, we are pleased with the continuing fall in crime rates across the county. There were 15,133 fewer crimes in Kent and Medway last year, an impressive 10 per cent decrease. This is a great achievement by Kent Police and partners.

During this economic crisis we have been especially conscious of the need to support local businesses and ensure there are Kent jobs for Kent people. This ambition is at the heart of KCC's campaign Backing Kent Business.

This month we announced a number of initiatives to support businesses, including making it easier for them to access public sector contracts within and outside of Kent, speeding up our payment of invoices and helping businesses access grants.

The campaign also aims to support the housing industry by putting up to £85 million of vacant possession unsold property assets in a fund to be developed into 'oven-ready' schemes with professional planners/teams of architects and released as joint-venture developments with private sector housebuilders, packaged appropriately to attract Kent firms.

We will be lobbying government on behalf of the business community to reduce the burden of unnecessary regulation and bureaucracy. KCC will lead by example with an independent review of our ecology policy function and process.

In 2009 we will also be marketing our campaign to increase the number of apprenticeships available in Kent in line with the government aim for 20 per cent of all post-16 learning to be in this form. That equates to 8,000 apprenticeships in the county, a massive challenge for all employers.

Many people will be pleased to know about the demise of regional assemblies across the UK. I have been given the job in the South East of shaping what will replace them, having been elected as the first chairman of the newly formed organisation South East England Councils (SEEC) by the 74 council leaders in the South East. As its new chairman I will be steering ambitious regional plans on behalf of all local government in the region.

Clearly next year is going to be exceptionally challenging for all of us against the backdrop of the global recession, the like of which has not been experienced before. I am determined to deliver as low a council tax as possible.

We must remain optimistic and focused in fighting the impact of recession. KCC with its public sector partners will do all we can to support Kent businesses and the people they employ and continue to improve and deliver as efficiently as possible the services we provide to Kent residents, from early education to adult social care.

I wish all Kent residents a peaceful and happy New Year.

• Cllr Paul Carter is leader of Kent County Council.

'Clearly next year is going to be exceptionally challenging for us all... we must remain optimistic'

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Point has been missed

I would like to comment on your recent boxed letter Kent Supports The Addicks.

I thought the title misleading because less than one per cent of the county's population would claim to support Charlton. And a huge percentage of those who do make the journey to London SE7 are exiled Londoners. Perhaps a better title would be Charlton needs Kent.

Rick Everitt claims many people in Kent support Charlton, but he was making the same claims in the early 90s when Target 10,000 was in full swing (the club's project to raise matchday attendances to five figures).

He wishes the Gills and Kent's other clubs well but seems inordinately proud of his (carbon footprint-laden) matchday coach service "with over 50 pick-ups across the county" that quite obviously takes potential support away from Kent clubs.

He states as "geographical fact" that Charlton are the local Football League team in Dartford. But that would all change if Ebbsfleet United are promoted. And anyway, what is so wrong with supporting Dartford in their fantastic new ground?

He claims KOS journalists completely miss the point that Charlton are active in Kent. I think the point the article made was that encouragement from local media could make a positive difference to the fortunes of our own clubs. Mr Everitt boasts of Charlton support in Kent. He makes a separate boast of having "thousands" of fans in East Sussex.

Is it, in fact, Mr Everitt who misses the point? The Valley is located in the heart of one of Europe's most populous cities. Why are the millions on his doorstep not interested?

Adrian Pope
Broadstairs

We need a balance

The letters from Messrs Burgess and Jeffrey on declining bee numbers is welcome and relevant. Their proposals, though, are merely treating the symptoms, not the cause.

At school, I learnt about the balance of nature – the interaction of all species and the balance of population against food supply. Of all the species, the human race alone – especially those from 'developed' countries – has the arrogance to disregard these basic tenets.

This planet has finite resources. Yet we are moving inexorably towards a situation that is totally unsustainable. Politicians and economists are locked into the mantra of growth, forgetting that, in a finite system, the only long-term solution is stability. Their attitude is either naively ignorant or criminally wilful. Even the attempts to reduce CO2 have been put in an economic framework, rather than an ecological one – there has to be trading.

The rocketing population and increasing urbanisation leads to a reduction of land available for food production, and an increasing ignorance of the place of mankind in the natural environment.

There are two critical strategies that should be addressed. The first is a global agreement to stabilise, and then reduce, the human population. The second is to invest hugely in the technology to harness the infinite free, clean energy the Earth receives every day from the Sun. The means are available; the commitment to apply it is not.

In this country, there seems to be a social breakdown in some areas. How much can this be attributed to overcrowding?

Dave Stewart,
Deal

We'll need saving from police

Having watched the footage of the police over-reacting towards the protesters at Kingsnorth I am somewhat alarmed at the prospect of Kent police officers being routinely armed with Tasers.

The arrest of Damien Green and the inquest into the death of Jean Charles De Menenzes have shown our police forces are unaccountable – not even to Parliament and with that kind of carte blanche they will be electrocuting us in droves.

The police are supposed to protect the public, if they are armed with Tasers it will be the public who need protecting from the police.

Christopher L Newcombe
Newchurch

Post office is doomed

It seems Blairite Thatcherism is still alive and active. The proposals for the part pirati-sation of the Royal Mail are sheer madness.

Nothing has been learned from the present economic crisis caused by privatisation and deregulation. I fear our Labour Government is about to preside over the destruction of the finest postal service in the world.

David Burgess
Hawkhurst

Work limit is unfair

Labour MEPs – including Peter Skinner from the South East – seem to think they know how many hours you should work.

In Strasbourg, they have voted with a majority of MEPs to scrap the UK's opt-out of the Working Time Directive's stipulation that we can only work a maximum of 48 hours per week. Even our Labour government has supported the opt-out, which was won by John Major in 1993 and is now used by 15 EU countries.

At a time when our economy is suffering and many people are working hard to make ends meet, or to achieve that all-important promotion, why are Labour MEPs standing in their way?

Richard Ashworth
Kent MEP

Fine mess for parking

It was a cold, wet and windy Monday night when few people were out. I rather stupidly parked in one of the many empty disabled spaces next to an entrance to Bluewater.

Later, having bought a TV and dishwasher I returned to find my car clamped and a £75 fine. (A company in Slough employs 2,000 operatives to clamp 24-hours a day, all year). I write to warn others that out-of-town shopping centres are routinely visited by clampers, day and night. I have now changed my credit card from the in-store one I used in Bluewater. I now shop in town centres (best buy – an expensive old ornament from a charity shop. Cancer sufferers will benefit

Letters continued on page 32

YOUR LETTERS

KOS Media welcomes your comments and letters for publication. Please send correspondence to: Letters to the Editor, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR. Alternatively fax them to: 01303 817002, or email them to editorial@kosmedia.co.uk. Please include your name and address, although these will be withheld in exceptional circumstances. Please also include a daytime telephone number for verification (this will not be published). We reserve the right to edit letters.

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Leah Arnold born on 14 December 2008, weighing 6lb 14oz. Daughter to Alex and Jade in Margate. Mummy and Daddys special little angel.

AUBREY
Theodore-James Peter born on 5th December 2008 at 7.05am, weighing 7lb 7oz. Son to Michael and Tegan in Dover.

HARRISON
Matthew and Jamie are proud to announce the birth of their son Alfie on 8th December 2008 weighing 7lb 14oz.

MILLS-DURRANT
Gavin and Michelle of Gravesend celebrate the birth of their daughter Ruby Jazmin born on 9th December 2008 weighing 7lb 9oz. A baby sister for Chantelle, Ashleigh, Georgina, Kathrine, Connor and Bethany.

PHILLIPS
Ruby Evelyn Phillips born on 29th November 2008, weighing 6lb 14oz. Daughter to Chris Phillips and Ashley Robinson in Maidstone.

RAYFIELD
Gary Cole and Hayley Rayfield celebrate the birth of their son Hayden Mark Cole Rayfield on 5th December 2008.

DEATHS

CLARK
Eunice Clark of Herne Bay, sadly passed away on 15th December at home. Loving Mum, Grandma and Great Grandmother. Missed for completion of cross-words.

HEWITT
Edward Henry, formerly of Paddock Wood passed away peacefully on 6th December 2008 aged 91 years. Loving Father, Grandfather and Great Grandfather who will be very sadly missed by all who knew him. Funeral on 9th January 2009 at 2pm at St Andrews Church Paddock Wood. Any Donations to Alzheimers Society.

HILLMAN
Dorothea Hillman died peacefully on 16th December 2008 at home. Funeral Service at Thanet Crematorium at 2 pm on 30th December.

WRIGHT
Kenneth Arthur Wright of Folkestone died peacefully on the 17th December 2008. Funeral service at Charing Crematorium on the 29th December at 1:30pm.

Letters continued from p31

from the purchase). By using different supermarkets I am now well on my way to recovering my 'lost' £75 and Bluewater is the loser.

ID Armstrong
Meopham

No rest for the wicked

If June Moore truly believes in the Lord God, then the answer to her dilemma will be found directly in the Bible. (KoS, December 15)

After Satan incited rebellion in heaven and deceived Adam and Eve, he didn't go into retirement! Matthew 4:1-10 shows Satan had control of the world because he was able to offer Jesus, 'all the kingdoms in it'! John reinforced this in 1 John 5:19, saying, "...the whole world is lying in the power of the wicked one".

The Bible account is of a continual fight between good and evil, which will continue until Christ's promised return, (Matthew 24). Indeed Bible prophecy indicates it's going to get a whole lot worse, before it gets better.

There is an amazing parallel between the Israelites of old and the so-called Christian countries of today, who have been blessed but then turned their backs on God, for which they are now paying the penalty. The present world crisis being caused solely, like the rest of the world's problems, by selfishness and greed and an ignorance of how God has told us to live.

Why June Moore expects those who have let Satan into their hearts to declare a truce at Christmas, a pagan celebration with Christ's name stamped on it, I don't know.

Phil Granger
West Malling

Clean bill of health

Four years ago I highlighted exceptionally high rates of MRSA-related deaths at Medway Maritime Hospital and criticised a lack of effective action to deal with such hospital acquired infections.

Having criticised in the past, it is also right that I now draw attention to the very greatly improved performance on this issue at our hosptial. When I met with him recently I was pleased to congratulate Andy Horne, the hospital's chief executive, on that record, including four months without a single death from a hospital acquired infection.

I would also like to congratulate Vernon Hull and the board of the Medway Maritime Foundation Trust for the leadership they have shown in tackling hospital acquired infections. Proper care and attention to hygeine cannot be mandated by Whitehall and the progress made reflects a big cultural change and extremly hard work by staff.

As a New Year approaches we and they can all take pride in that dedication.

Cllr Mark Reckless
Conservative Parliamentary Candidate for Rochester and Strood

Road deaths on the up

I see on the weekly Kent County Council page in KOS was an article extolling the success of their road safety programme. Facts and figures can always be jumbled up to give better spin to a story, but the hard truth is that in the year 2000, 93 people died on the roads of Kent. In 2007 that figure rose to 98.

While much good work may have been done in education in some areas, we must not forget in the meantime, there has been a deluge of more congestion causing restrictive legislation and hundreds of thousands of drivers have been prosecuted and fined for minor traffic infringements, without any benefit to road safety. Because of the totting up system, where endorsements are handed out like confetti, loss of jobs could have caused unnecessary stress to families as well as complete break-ups. These social problems are never mentioned.

Plain cold statistics can never tell the whole human story.

Terry Hudson
Herne Bay

Try alternative uses

Kent Green Party has delivered a very critical submission to the consultation on the draft masterplan for Manston Airport.

The draft masterplan takes no account of the contraction in the civil aviation industry in recent months. This was occurring before the current recession encouraged less holidays and more of them in the UK.

Nevertheless, Kent Greens believe the Manston site does have employment potential for the future.

The draft makes an extraordinary effort to ignore the recent airline closures, contractions of services and mergers occurring in the civil aviation industry over the last few years. Coupled with the current recession which is already beginning to reduce the number of flights being taken, plans for Manston Airport to expand are literally 'flights of fancy'.

Fortunately, less ambitious and more realistic uses of the Manston site are possible. Kent Green Party has recommended the owners consider leisure facilities for the site, bearing in mind initiatives taken at Dreamland in Margate and in other Thanet coastal towns to improve leisure options in east Kent. Some of the site could be returned to agriculture, following the exemplary efforts of the Wye Community Farm to engage more people in agriculture.

There are always calls for more allotments, and seed sales for growing food have risen dramatically in recent years.

Why shouldn't Manston have quieter and less polluting contributions to make to the

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well-being of East Kent in future?

Steve Dawe
Kent Green Party, Tonbridge

The true price of meat

Former slaughterman, H Clark, was granted a good deal of space (Slaughterhouse Clive) to denounce as fantasists those who assert that animals endure stress and pain in farms and slaughterhouses.

I may not have killed animals but I have a good deal of first-hand experience of farms, slaughterhouses and livestock markets.

The picture Mr Clark paints of free-ranging, contented animals is a nonsense.

Visitors to Animal Aid's website (www.animalaid.org.uk) can see for themselves undercover film we have taken in recent months at pig, chicken, turkey, cattle and goat farms. The filth, disease, death and suffering are there for all to see.

Government figures show around 15 per cent of newborn lambs are dead within days – from malnutrition, disease and exposure. Dairy cows are increasingly confined for all their productive lives inside large sheds under punishing 'zero grazing' regimes.

More than 700 million chickens are reared for slaughter in Britain every year. The vast majority are housed in windowless sheds that each hold around 30,000 birds. A large percentage of the birds suffer crippling lameness and – unable to reach the feed and water stations – starve to death and rot where they fall.

I have personally witnessed examples of all that I have described. I have also visited six slaughterhouses, where I've seen crippled pigs kicked towards the stunning box and then slip their shackles, crash land head first onto the stone floor and writhe with blood pouring from throat wounds caused by the slaughterman's knife. I saw this happen to several pigs in two abattoirs.

Mr Clark's powers of observation and his capacity for empathy seem to have been deadened by his years in the meat trade.

In that regard he's out of step with the general public, who are increasingly conscious of the fact their meat comes at a price – a price paid by the animals we mass produce and slaughter.

Andrew Tyler
Director, Animal Aid, Tonbridge

The young are good

On a daily basis, we are exposed to an unrelenting stream of negativity. We face gloomy stories about our youth, horrific statistics on knife crime, and a gangland culture which seems to have gripped our cities.

A new survey conducted by BT in partnership with UK Youth Parliament reveals over two thirds of young people feel adults in positions of responsibility do not "stick up" for them. A further 75 per cent say adults do not know what's important to them or what the issues in their lives are.

With this in mind I want to draw your readers' attention to a campaign which, refreshingly, focuses on the outstanding contributions and accomplishments of young people – the BT Seen & Heard Report.

Celebrating the exceptional efforts of young people to change their lives for the better, the report was presented to MPs, ministers and other business leaders at the Houses of Parliament on December 17.

The Seen & Heard Report highlights the positive work of young people and raises the issues that matter to them. The 20 projects included in the report cover a range of issues from youth activism to conservation.

Young people across the globe are changing their worlds for the better and demonstrating admirable virtues of acceptance, tolerance and cooperation. Yet we very often fail to give them enough credit for their achievements and prefer to focus solely on the negative stereotypes of youth.

The report goes some way to change this – celebrating young people who have collaborated to achieve a better future. As the guardians of their future, we have much to learn from this determination to overcome barriers and unite behind common goals.

See www.btbetterworld.com for details.

Andy Hamflett
Chief Executive, UK Youth Parliament

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Pupil's have grand designs on look for Longfield Academy

ARCHITECTURE students at a university have been drawing up plans for adapting and extending a school – with the pupils as their 'clients'.

The 20 second-year students from the Kent School of Architecture (KSA) at the University of Kent are working with youngsters from Longfield Academy. The aim is to get pupils to explore the architecture of their school together with the students before they draw up their ideas and take part in a mentoring session with leading architectural company Jestico + Whiles.

Dr Timothy Brittain-Catlin, cultural context and design lecturer at KSA, said: "Combining this goal with the educational requirements of a RIBA-validated course has its challenges, not least because our students are required to draw up their own design proposals for a new building at the school while they are engaging with the pupils as a group.

"However, this process and project are extremely valuable as they enable KSA to get involved with its local school community – a role that we very much hope to expand in coming years.

"We also believe this type of research involving young users has a valuable part to play during the current debate about the Government's Building Schools for the Future programme."

Gateway to career in public services

THE doctors, teachers and police officers of the future may be among more than 100 pupils who have enrolled on a new pre-university programme.

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

Sixth formers from eight Kent schools have signed up to Canterbury Christ Church's Gateway course, which aims to encourage more young people to consider careers in policing, health and education.

Upon successful completion of the programme, the pupils will receive certificates they can reference when applying for university.

Project leader Dr Kathy Goouch spoke of the benefits the course will bring.

She said: "This project is a wonderful opportunity for young people from our local high schools to experience university life at first hand, as well as offering them the chance to consider a career in the public services.

"In the company of experienced university tutors they are provided with the experience of studying within a higher-education environment and we are confident this will help them make a more fully informed choice about their future choices and careers."

The eight schools taking part in the Gateway programme are Canterbury High, St Anselm's Catholic, The Abbey School, Hartsdown Tech, Chaucer Tech, Swadelands, St George's and Minster College.

Pupils are given the choice of studying health, education or crime and policing, with modules including adult nursing, speech and language therapy, literacy, criminal investigation, diagnostic radiography and more.

Dr Goouch said: "The students have already demonstrated maturity in their participation in the sessions, and a level of commitment and passion towards studying to work in their chosen field of public service."

Those students who have enrolled on the year-long course will tackle it alongside their sixth-form studies, and will collect their certificates at an awards ceremony in July.

The Gateway programme involves a total of 15 hours of learning sessions at Canterbury Christ Church, as well as 35 hours of additional study.

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BBC director shows tricks of the trade

THE acclaimed director of the popular television series Merlin has given a master class in special effects at a Kent university.

David Moore, who also directed a BBC adaptation of Sweeney Todd, about a murderous Fleet Street barber starring Ray Winstone, described in detail the planning and execution of state-of-the-art effects.

The examples he used were from the climax of the BBC's latest Merlin series, Morte d'Arthur, which screened last Saturday, including the sequences of the Questing Beast and Isle of the Blessed.

Visual effects students at the University of Kent then took park in a workshop where they were encouraged to develop their own ideas for sequences.

"It was great to see the enthusiasm with which the students on the MScs in computer animation and digital visual effects courses embraced the techniques involved in making the series," Mr Moore said.

"It was also interesting to see how they chose to incorporate them in their own projects."

David Byers-Brown, who leads the Masters programmes, said the students were lucky to see the ideas and approaches of a professional director with such current and cutting-edge experience.

MAGIC: A scene from Merlin

He added: "We aim to produce graduates able to fit right in to the current visual effects industry in Britain."

Two computer animation MSc graduates recently finished work on The Tale of Despereaux, a Universal Pictures feature released in the UK on Friday about the adventures of a brave mouse.

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- Catering, Hospitality
- Construction, Architecture, Surveyors
- Customer Service, Call Centre
- Domestic
- Education, Teacher, School
- Engineering, Manufacturing, Utilities
- Estate Agency, Property
- Graduate, Trainees
- Health and Safety, Security, Defence
- HR, Recruitment
- Industrial, Warehouse, Factory
- IT, Internet, Telecoms
- Insurance, Banking, Finance
- Legal
- Leisure, Tourism, Travel
- Management Consultancy
- Management, Senior Positions
- Marketing, Advertising
- Motor Trade, Driver
- Not for Profit, Charities
- Nursing, Medicine, Care Work
- Other
- Print, Packaging, Distribution
- PR, Media, Journalism
- Public Sector, Social Services
- Retail, Wholesale, Sales
- Scientific and Pharmaceutical, Research
- Transport, Logistics, Aviation

ADMINISTRATOR

Regent Development Ltd is a Chartered Building Company acting as a service provider to most major insurance companies for Domestic insurance claims.

We have just won another new contract which is due to commence in the New Year. We are therefore looking for another Administrator to enhance our very busy Team. Work will involve booking in new jobs/scheduling materials and operatives, organising start dates and providing a comprehensive customer service to all Clients. On the job training will be supplied, however, Computer literacy is a must in Excel/Word and Outlook as is the ability to work on your own initiative once training is complete. A knowledge of Sage would be advantageous.

The Company offers a salary between £13,000 to £17,000 per annum dependant upon experience/28 day holiday (including Bank Holidays)/bonus system/free Healthcare upon completion of 12 months employment.

CV's to: pat.slater@regentgroup.co.uk tel: 01322 626240

RECEPTIONIST 20 HOURS

required for busy doctor's surgery to cover 2 evenings and 3 mornings. Must be flexible, keyboard skills an advantage but not essential.

Please apply in writing with CV to Mrs Jill Blackman, Practice Manager, Sun Lane Surgery, 5 Sun Lane, Hythe, Kent CT21 5JX

St Nicholas at Wade & Sarre Parish Council (Thanet) wishes to appoint a **part-time, home-based successor to their Parish Clerk/ Responsible Finance Officer** due to forthcoming retirement. Salary will be based on the national scale. Financial, admin and IT skills are required, knowledge of Local Government procedures would be an advantage.

Contact- bernard.clayson@btinternet.com

A2 CABS LTD
Full & Part Time
TAXI DRIVER'S
Required
Please contact
Elaine
01795 431500

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Accountants

We are a local firm of accountants that have a vacancy for an Experienced Accounts Assistant. You must have experience within an accountancy practice – we offer a study package, if required, and a competitive salary.

All applicants must be able to drive due to location of offices.

Please send a CV and salary expectation to:
Mr M Kayes, Riddington & Riddington, The Lodge, Darenth Hill, Darenth, Kent DA2 7QR
Or email to: mike@riddingtons.co.uk

Loring Hall Oakfields

We look after people with Learning Difficulties and who may have challenging behaviours. We are currently recruiting for the following

- **Senior Support Workers**
- **Support Workers**
- **Waking NightStaff**
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We are looking for creative thinkers who can develop copy and concept ideas through to on-screen design. Ideally you will be able to illustrate/scamp out a full brief and idea for potential advertisers and liaise with our other graphic designers or even turn it into a finished on-screen advert.

It will be an advantage to have a good background in copy writing, headlines and marketing skills as well as the ability to understand call-to-action and unique tagline messages. Knowledge of QuarkXPress, Photoshop, Illustrator or Indesign would also be an advantage.

All applicants should include an illustration/scamp of any advert from any local paper, illustrating how this advert could stand out or be portrayed in a way that talks more to its potential consumer than the original advert in the local paper.

We have been recognised nationally for award winning advertising campaigns for our clients, so if you want to be a part of our dynamic creative team in print or online, please send in your CV with a covering letter and your illustration/scamp advert idea to: Paul Stannard, Managing Director, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR or email **paul.stannard@kosmedia.co.uk**

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To advertise in this section
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Career Opportunities

Canterbury College

Canterbury College is an equal opportunities employer

Canterbury College is a Further and Higher Education College in the heart of Kent. Our goal is to be one of the best FE Colleges in England by 2010. We have 9,000 students across 300 courses and enjoy an enviable reputation as a great place to learn. Our brand new £50M campus is also home to nearly 800 staff and we have some great career opportunities which may be right for you.

Section Manager Construction Craft	**08/12**
37 hrs per week, salary starting £33,858 per annum	
Section Manager Dental Nursing, Social Care and Counselling	**06/110**
37 hrs per week, salary starting £33,858 per annum	
Coordinator Mathematics	**08/61**
37 hrs per week, salary starting £27,209 per annum	
Lecturer Media in Interactive Media	**04/64**
18.5 hrs per week salary range £18,387 – £26,363 pro rata per annum	
Pre 16 Tutor	**07/12**
37 hrs per week salary range £18,387 – £26,363 per annum Fixed term post ending 31 August 2010	
Lecturer Computing and IT	**L24**
37 hrs per week salary range £18,387 – £26,363 per annum. Fixed term post ending 31 December 2012	
Lecturer Public Services	**06/92 & 08/145**
2 x posts - 37 hrs per week salary range £18,387 – £26,363 per annum.	
Supply Lecturers to teach Learning Support and Teaching Assistants	**S/HE/LS**
Various hours available, salary range £18,387 – £26,363 pro rata per annum	
Skills for Life Initial Assessor	**08/154**
18.5 hours per week, salary starting £15,085 pro rata per annum	

For an information pack please visit www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Of ce on 01227 811282 (24 hr answerphone) quoting the above reference.

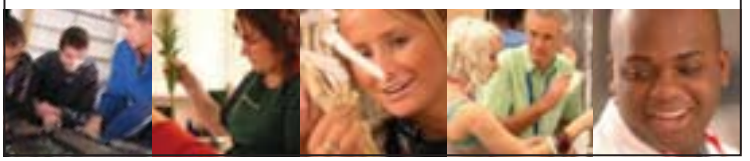
Staff benefits include:

- ***Pension & Life Assurance Scheme***
- ***Proximity to main bus & train stations***
- ***Close to City Centre***
- ***Sports Hall & Gym***
- ***Generous Holiday Allowance***
- ***Staff Discount Scheme***

The closing date for the above posts is Monday 12 January 2009 at 12 noon

CLICK www.canterburycollege.ac.uk/job-vacancies

CALL *01227 811282 (24 hr answerphone)*



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Required as soon as possible

Individual Needs Tutor

Infant & Junior Department

Salary Scale £19,060 - £19,976
(dependent on qualifications and experience)

0.4 fte - ability to be flexible desirable
1:1 tuition
Recognised Dyslexia/SpLD qualification

Applications, with full CV's, a letter of introduction and details of two referees should be sent to:

The Headmaster, Dover College, Effingham Crescent, Dover. Kent. CT17 9RH

Closing Date for Applications 9th January 2009

Tel: 01304 205969 ext. 201
Email: headmaster@dovercollege.org.uk or hm.pa@dovercollege.org.uk www.dovercollege.org.uk

Dover College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people.

Dover College: Registered Charity Number 307856

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Career Opportunities

Sheppey College

Sheppey College is an equal opportunities employer

Sheppey College is a satellite of Canterbury College and has been open since 1996. We offer a variety of courses in a modern and friendly learning environment and enjoy excellent rates of success.

Supply Learning Support staff required in the following areas: **Ref SH/LS**

- *Beauty*
- *Hair*
- *Cache*
- *Skills for Working Life*
- *Administration*
- *Finance*
- *ICT*
- *Public Services*
- *Construction*

Various hours available, salary starting £16,914 pro rata per annum

For an information pack please visit www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24 hr answerphone) quoting the above reference.

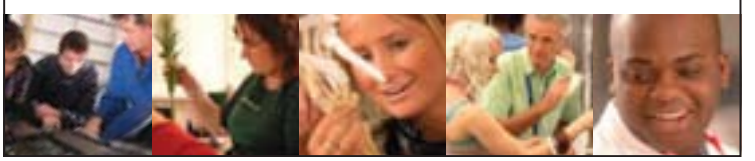
Staff benefits include:

- ***Pension & Life Assurance Scheme***
- ***Proximity to main bus & train stations***
- ***Generous Holiday Allowance***
- ***Close to Town Centre***

The closing date for the above posts is Monday 12th January 2009 at 12 noon.

CLICK www.canterburycollege.ac.uk/job-vacancies

CALL *01227 811282 (24 hr answerphone)*



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MidKent College

MidKent College based in the Medway Towns and Maidstone is seeking to appoint outstanding individuals in the following areas:

Assistant Graphic Designer — Ref: P0601

Salary: £19,736 - £25,441

You will assist the College's graphic designer with all aspects relating to the production and development of the College's design requirements, including prospectuses, brochures, leaflets, advertisements and corporate documents. The successful candidate will have knowledge and experience of working in a graphic design related role and be able to demonstrate excellent creativity and design skills. A sound working knowledge of Mac OSX, QuarkXpress, Photoshop, Freehand MX and Microsoft Office is also required. Knowledge and experience of multi-media design and production would be advantageous.

Lecturer in Hair Design — Ref: P0351

(22.2 hours per week) Salary: £25,092 - £28,719 pro rata

We are seeking to appoint an enthusiastic professional to teach, assess and participate in the development of Hair Design programmes. The successful candidate will develop and deliver high quality training and assessment procedures to full and part-time learners. The applicant must have a relevant vocational/academic qualification and should hold or be willing to work towards a teaching qualification. Recent industry experience would be advantageous.

Lecturer in Beauty — Ref: P0259

(18.5 hours per week) Salary: £25,092 - £28,719 pro rata

We are seeking to appoint a passionate individual to teach, assess and contribute to the development of Beauty Therapy programmes. The successful candidate will develop and deliver high quality training and assessment procedures to full and part-time learners. The applicant must have a relevant vocational/academic qualification and should hold or be willing to work towards a teaching qualification. Recent industry experience would be advantageous.

Floristry Technician — Ref: P0457

(37 hours per week Term Time – 38 weeks) Salary: £11,599 - £17,200 pro-rata

We have an exciting opportunity for a Floristry Technician who will be responsible for providing assistance and technical support to staff and learners within the Floristry department. In addition, you will prepare equipment for lessons and place and receive orders and ensure equipment is maintained. Ideally, you will have experience in the field of Floristry and be able to demonstrate good administrative skills. Candidates who submitted an application for this post in October 2008 need not re-apply.

Aim-Higher Co-ordinator — Ref: MPR01

(Maternity Cover – 30 hours per week, term-time) Salary: £17,861 - £22,907 pro-rata

The successful candidate will arrange, develop and deliver activities which will increase aspiration and awareness of opportunities in Higher Education and progression routes amongst learners currently enrolled at MidKent College and to lead in the support offered to learners with their applications into HE through the UCAS process.

Closing date: Friday, 23 January 2009

Mid-Kent College is working in partnership with RBLI Employment Solutions to support individuals who have a disability or health condition in the application, interview and employment with the college. If you would like any further information regarding RBLI, or require assistance with your application process then please contact RBLI on 0800 783 1144 or visit their website www.rbli.co.uk for information, advice and guidance.

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people and vulnerable adults and anyone applying for work with the College is expected to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to an Enhanced Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure.

Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the Personnel department on 01634 884402 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

Mid-Kent College is an equal opportunities employer

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A selection of the 100s of Local Jobs online

Accountancy

Experienced Accounts Assistant

Dartford
Salary: TBA
You must have experience within an accountancy practice - we offer a study package, if required, and a competitive salary. All applicants must be able to drive due to location of offices. Please send a CV and salary expectations to: Mr M Kayes Riddington & Riddington The Lodge Darenth Hill Darenth Kent DA2 7QR
To apply/more information:
Mr M Kayes
Riddingtons & Riddingtons Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: KOS
Email mike@riddingtons.co.uk

Administration, Secretarial, PA

ADMINISTRATOR

Dartford
Salary: £13,000 to £17,000 per annum
Regent Development Ltd is a Chartered Building Company acting as a service provider to most major insurance companies for Domestic insurance claims. We have just won another new contract which is due to commence in the New Year. We are therefore looking for another Administrator to enhance our very busy Team. Work will involve booking in new jobs/scheduling materials and operatives, organising start dates and providing a comprehensive customer service to all Clients. On the job training will be supplied, however, Computer literacy is a must in Excel/Word and Outlook as is the ability to work on your own initiative once training is complete. A knowledge of Sage would be advantageous. The Company offers a salary between £13,000 to £17,000 per annum dependant upon experience/28 day holiday (including Bank Holidays)/bonus system/free Healthcare upon completion of 12 months employment. CV's to: pat.slater@regentgroup.co.uk tel: 01322 626240.
To apply/more information:
Regent Development Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01322 626240
Email
pat.slater@regentgroup.co.uk

Parish Clerk /Responsible Finance Officer

Margate
Salary: TBA
St Nicholas at Wade & Sarre Parish Council (Thanet) wishes to appoint a part-time, home-based successor to their Parish Clerk/Responsible Finance Officer due to forthcoming retirement. Salary will be based on the national scale. Financial, admin and IT skills are required, knowledge of Local Government procedures would be an advantage. Contact- bernard.clayson@btinternet.com
To apply/more information:
Bernard Clayson
Bernard Clayson
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email
bernard.clayson@btinternet.com

Receptionist

Hythe
Salary: TBA
Required for busy doctor's surgery to cover 2 evenings and 3 mornings, 20 hours per week Must be flexible, keyboard skills an advantage but not essential. Please apply in writing with CV to Mrs Jill Blackman Practice Manager Sun Lane Surgery 5 Sun Lane Hythe Kent CT21 5JX
To apply/more information:
Mrs Jill Blackman
Sun Lane Surgery
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Agriculture, Forestry, Environment

Floristry Technician

Medway
Salary: £11,599 - £17,200 pro-rata
Closing Date: Friday 23 January 2009
37 hours per week Term Time - 38 weeks We have an exciting opportunity for a Floristry Technician who will be responsible for providing assistance and technical support to staff and learners within the Floristry department. In addition, you will prepare equipment for lessons and place and receive orders and ensure equipment is maintained. Ideally, you will have experience in the field of Floristry and be able to demonstrate good administrative skills. Candidates who submitted an application for this post in October 2008 need not re-apply. The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people and vulnerable adults and anyone applying for work with the College is expected to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to an Enhanced Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure. Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the Personnel department on 01634 884402 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number. Mid-Kent College is an equal opportunities employer.
To apply/more information:
Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: P0457
Tel: 01634 884402
Email
job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

Finding staff
24-7
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To advertise in this section or online
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Art and Design

Assistant Graphic Designer

Medway
Salary: £19,736 - £25,441
Closing Date: Friday 23 January 2009
You will assist the College's graphic designer with all aspects relating to the production and development of the College's design requirements, including prospectuses, brochures, leaflets, advertisements and corporate documents. The successful candidate will have knowledge and experience of working in a graphic design related role and be able to demonstrate excellent creativity and design skills. A sound working knowledge of Mac OSX, QuarkXpress, Photoshop, Freehand MX and Microsoft Office is also required. Knowledge and experience of multi-media design and production would be advantageous. The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people and vulnerable adults and anyone applying for work with the College is expected to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to an Enhanced Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure. Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the Personnel department on 01634 884402 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number. Mid-Kent College is an equal opportunities employer
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Aim-Higher Co-ordinator

Medway
Salary: £17,861 - £22,907 pro-rata
Closing Date: Friday 16 January 2009
Maternity Cover - 30 hours per week, term-time The successful candidate will arrange, develop and deliver activities which will increase aspiration and awareness of opportunities in Higher Education and progression routes amongst learners currently enrolled at MidKent College and to lead in the support offered to learners with their applications into HE through the UCAS process. Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the Personnel department on 01634 884402 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number. Mid-Kent College is an equal opportunities employer
To apply/more information:
Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: MPR01
Tel: 01634 884402
Email
job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

Aim-Higher Co-ordinator

Ashford
Salary: £17,861 - £22,907 pro-rata
Maternity Cover – 30 hours per week, term-time The successful candidate will arrange, develop and deliver activities which will increase aspiration and awareness of opportunities in Higher Education and progression routes amongst learners currently enrolled at MidKent College and to lead in the support offered to learners with their applications into HE through the UCAS process. The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people and vulnerable adults and anyone applying for work with the College is expected to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to an Enhanced Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure. Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the Personnel department on 01634 884402 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number. Mid-Kent College is an equal opportunities employer
To apply/more information:
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Quoting Job Ref: MPR01
Tel: 01634 884402
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Clerk to the Governors/ Project Officer

Folkestone
Salary: £24,000 pa + benefits
Closing Date: 9th January 2009
Folkestone, Marlowe and Spires Academies require a Clerk to the Governors/Project Officer Are you a good organiser, able to bring people together and make things happen? Do you enjoy the challenge of finding out new information and compiling interesting and relevant reports? Would you like to be at the cutting edge of educational change?

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We are looking for someone who can combine the role of Clerk to the Governors for our three academies with a project officer role in supporting the development of our all age academy programme. This is the ideal job for an agile minded individual who enjoys the challenge of a varied range of responsibilities, working as part of a small Folkestone-based team. Based in Folkestone Academy, you will be expected to travel to Canterbury and Ramsgate and be ready to adapt to a range of tasks. Start date: February or March 2009. Salary £24,000 pa + benefits For an informal discussion please contact Gabrielle Wilson on 01303 212048 Application packs can be obtained from www.folkestoneacademy.com
To apply/more information:
Gabrielle Wilson
Marlowe Academy
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01303 212048
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Coordinator Mathematics

Canterbury
Salary: £27,209 pa
Closing Date: Monday 12 January 2009 at Noon
37 hours per week Canterbury College is a Further and Higher Education College in the heart of Kent. Our goal is to be one of the best FE Colleges in England by 2010. We have 9,000 students across 300 courses and enjoy an enviable reputation as a great place to learn. Our brand new £50M campus is also home to nearly 800 staff and we have some great career opportunities which may be right for you. For an information pack please visit www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone) quoting the post reference. Staff benefits include: • Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme • Proximity to Main Bus & Train stations • Close to City Centre • Sports Hall and Gym • Generous Holiday Allowance • Staff Discount Scheme.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/61
Tel: 01227 811282
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Hourly Paid Lecturer in Sport

Medway
Salary: £19.74 to £28.28 per hour
Closing Date: Friday 16 January 2009
Pay Includes holiday component We are looking to recruit an hourly paid Lecturer for Sport to prepare, deliver, assess and teach on a range of courses, including BTEC National in Sports Science. The applicant will have a Sports Science or Sports related degree and be able to coach on a range of sporting activities. Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the Personnel department on 01634 884402 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number. Mid-Kent College is an equal opportunities employer.
To apply/more information:
Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: SES01
Tel: 01634 884402
Email
job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

Hourly Paid Lecturers/Reviewing Officer/Assessors

Medway
Salary: £19.74 to £28.28 per hour
Closing Date: Friday 16 January 2009
Pay includes holiday component We are looking to recruit hourly paid Gas Trainers, Gas Assessors and Reviewing Officers/Assessors for Engineering and Welding and Lecturers in Plumbing and Mechanical Engineering. The successful candidates will have current knowledge and experience in their specialist field and a relevant trade qualification. Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the Personnel department on 01634 884402 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number. Mid-Kent College is an equal opportunities employer.
To apply/more information:
Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: SES02
Tel: 01634 884402
Email
job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

Individual Needs Tutor

Dover
Salary: £19,060 - £19,976
Closing Date: 9th January 2009
Salary dependent on qualifications and experience 0.4 fte - ability to be flexible desirable, 1:1 tuition, Recognised Dyslexia/SpLD qualification Applications, with full CV's, a letter of introduction and details of two referees should be sent to: The Headmaster, Dover College, Effingham Crescent, Dover. Kent. CT17 9RH Tel: 01304 205969 ext. 201 Email: headmaster@dovercollege.org.uk or hm.pa@dovercollege.org.uk www.dovercollege.org.uk Dover College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people.
To apply/more information:
Dover College
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01304 205969 ext 201
Email
hm.pa@dovercollege.org.uk

Lecturer Computing and IT

Canterbury
Salary: £18,387 - £26,363 pro rata pa
Closing Date: Monday 12 January 2009 at Noon
37 hours per week, Fixed post ending 31 December 2012 Canterbury College is a Further and Higher Education College in the heart of Kent. Our goal is to be one of the best FE Colleges in England by 2010. We have 9,000 students across 300 courses and enjoy an enviable reputation as a great place to learn. Our brand new £50M campus is also home to nearly 800 staff and we have some great career opportunities which may be right for you. For an information pack please visit www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone) quoting the post reference. Staff benefits include: • Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme • Proximity to Main Bus & Train stations • Close to City Centre • Sports Hall and Gym • Generous Holiday Allowance • Staff Discount Scheme.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: L24
Tel: 01227 811282
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applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Lecturer in Beauty

Medway
Salary: £25,092 - £28,719 pro rata
Closing Date: Friday 23 January 2009
18.5 hours per week We are seeking to appoint a passionate individual to teach, assess and contribute to the development of Beauty Therapy programmes. The successful candidate will develop and deliver high quality training and assessment procedures to full and part-time learners. The applicant must have a relevant vocational/academic qualification and should hold or be willing to work towards a teaching qualification. Recent industry experience would be advantageous. The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people and vulnerable adults and anyone applying for work with the College is expected to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to an Enhanced Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure. Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the Personnel department on 01634 884402 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number. Mid-Kent College is an equal opportunities employer.
To apply/more information:
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Tel: 01634 884402
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job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

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Lecturer in Hair Design

Medway
Salary: £25,092 - £28,719 pro rata
Closing Date: Friday 23 January 2009
22.2 hours per week We are seeking to appoint an enthusiastic professional to teach, assess and participate in the development of Hair Design programmes. The successful candidate will develop and deliver high quality training and assessment procedures to full and part-time learners. The applicant must have a relevant vocational/academic qualification and should hold or be willing to work towards a teaching qualification. Recent industry experience would be advantageous. The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people and vulnerable adults and anyone applying for work with the College is expected to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to an Enhanced Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure. Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the Personnel department on 01634 884402 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number. Mid-Kent College is an equal opportunities employer.
To apply/more information:
Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: P0351
Tel: 01634 884402
Email
job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

Lecturer in Plumbing

Medway
Salary: £25,092 - £32,898
Closing Date: Friday 16 January 2009
The ideal candidate will have current knowledge and experience of the Building Services Industry and have a relevant trade qualification in plumbing. The successful candidate will have or be willing to work towards a recognised teaching qualification. Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the Personnel department on 01634 884402 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number. Mid-Kent College is an equal opportunities employer
To apply/more information:
Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: P0231
Tel: 01634 884402
Email
job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

Lecturer in Travel and Tourism

Medway
Salary: £25,092 - £28,719 pro-rata
Closing Date: Friday 16 January 2009
An opportunity has arisen for a Lecturer in Travel & Tourism. The main purpose of the role is to deliver and teach on a range of Travel and Tourism courses. You must have a relevant degree, ideally in Tourism and will have or be willing to work towards an appropriate teaching qualification within a specified timeframe. Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the Personnel department on 01634 884402 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number. Mid-Kent College is an equal opportunities employer.
To apply/more information:
Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: P0543
Tel: 01634 884402
Email
job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

Lecturer Media in Interactive Media

Canterbury
Salary: £18,387 - £26,363 pro rata pa
Closing Date: Monday 12 January 2009 at Noon
18.5 hours per week Canterbury College is a Further and Higher Education College in the heart of Kent. Our goal is to be one of the best FE Colleges in England by 2010. We have 9,000 students across 300 courses and enjoy an enviable reputation as a great place to learn. Our brand new £50M campus is also home to nearly 800 staff and we have some great career opportunities which may be right for you. For an information pack please visit www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone) quoting the post reference. Staff benefits include: • Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme • Proximity to Main Bus & Train stations • Close to City Centre • Sports Hall and Gym • Generous Holiday Allowance • Staff Discount Scheme.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 04/64
Tel: 01227 811282
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Lecturer Public Services x 2

Canterbury
Salary: £18,387 - £26,363 pa
Closing Date: Monday 12 January 2009 at Noon
2 posts, 37 hours per week Canterbury College is a Further and Higher Education College in the heart of Kent. Our goal is to be one of the best FE Colleges in England by 2010. We have 9,000 students across 300 courses and enjoy an enviable reputation as a great place to learn. Our brand new £50M campus is also home to nearly 800 staff and we have some great career opportunities which may be right for you. For an information pack please visit www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone) quoting the post reference. Staff benefits include: • Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme • Proximity to Main Bus & Train stations • Close to City Centre • Sports Hall and Gym • Generous Holiday Allowance • Staff Discount Scheme.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 06/92 & 08/145
Tel: 01227 811282
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Pastoral Support Manager

Aylesford
Salary: Kent Scheme Grade 6 - Points 17 - 20 pro rata
Closing Date: 7th January 2009 Term time only 8.00 - 4.00pm Kent Scheme Grade 6 - Points 17 - 20 pro rata (£18,288 - £20,061 which equates to £15,082 - £16,544 pro rata) Required for January 2009 To support the pupils of the School and assistant in removing some of the barriers to learning. To request an information pack and application form, please contact Jill McKenna, on (01622) 714304. This post is subject to an Enhanced Disclosure Check via the Criminal Records Bureau.
To apply/more information:
Jill McKenna
Aylesford School - Sports College
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01622 714304
Email jill.mckenna@aylesford.kent.sch.uk

Pre 16 Tutor

Canterbury
Salary: £18,387 - £26,363 pro rata pa
Closing Date: Monday 12 January 2009 at Noon
37 hours per week, Fixed term post ending 31 August 2010 Canterbury College is a Further and Higher Education College in the heart of Kent. Our goal is to be one of the best FE Colleges in England by 2010. We have 9,000 students across 300 courses and enjoy an enviable reputation as a great place to learn. Our brand new £50M campus is also home to nearly 800 staff and we have some great career opportunities which may be right for you. For an information pack please visit www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone) quoting the post reference. Staff benefits include: • Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme • Proximity to Main Bus & Train stations • Close to City Centre • Sports Hall and Gym • Generous Holiday Allowance • Staff Discount Scheme.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 07/12
Tel: 01227 811282
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Section Manager Construction Craft

Canterbury
Salary: £33,858 pa
Closing Date: Monday 12 January 2009 at Noon
37 hours per week Canterbury College is a Further and Higher Education College in the heart of Kent. Our goal is to be one of the best FE Colleges in England by 2010. We have 9,000 students across 300 courses and enjoy an enviable reputation as a great place to learn. Our brand new £50M campus is also home to nearly 800 staff and we have some great career opportunities which may be right for you. For an information pack please visit www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone) quoting the post reference. Staff benefits include: • Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme • Proximity to Main Bus & Train stations • Close to City Centre • Sports Hall and Gym • Generous Holiday Allowance • Staff Discount Scheme.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/12
Tel: 01227 811282
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Section Manager Dental Nursing, Social Care and Counselling

Canterbury
Salary: £33,858 pa
Closing Date: Monday 12 January 2009 at Noon
37 hours per week Canterbury College is a Further and Higher Education College in the heart of Kent. Our goal is to be one of the best FE Colleges in England by 2010. We have 9,000 students across 300 courses and enjoy an enviable reputation as a great place to learn. Our brand new £50M campus is also home to nearly 800 staff and we have some great career opportunities which may be right for you. For an information pack please visit www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone) quoting the post reference. Staff benefits include: • Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme • Proximity to Main Bus & Train stations • Close to City Centre • Sports Hall and Gym • Generous Holiday Allowance • Staff Discount Scheme.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/154
Tel: 01227 811282
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Skills for Life Initial Assessor

Canterbury
Salary: £15,085 pro rata pa
Closing Date: Monday 12 January 2009 at Noon
18.5 hours per week Canterbury College is a Further and Higher Education College in the heart of Kent. Our goal is to be one of the best FE Colleges in England by 2010. We have 9,000 students across 300 courses and enjoy an enviable reputation as a great place to learn. Our brand new £50M campus is also home to nearly 800 staff and we have some great career opportunities which may be right for you. For an information pack please visit www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone) quoting the post reference.Staff benefits include: • Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme • Proximity to Main Bus & Train stations • Close to City Centre • Sports Hall and Gym • Generous Holiday Allowance • Staff Discount Scheme s per week.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/154
Tel: 01227 811282
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Supply Learning Support Staff

Isle of Sheppey
Salary: £16,914 pro rata pa
Closing Date: Monday 12 January 2009 at Noon
Required for the following areas: Beauty Skills for Working Life ICT Hair Administration Public Services Cache Finance Construction Sheppey College is a satellite of Canterbury College and has been open since 1996. We offer a variety of courses in a modern and friendly learning environment and enjoy excellent rates of success. For an application pack to apply, please visit www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24 answerphone) quoting the post reference. Staff benefits include: • Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme • Proximity to Main Bus/Train stations • Close to City Centre • Sports Hall and Gym • Generous Holiday Allowance • Staff Discount Scheme.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: SH/LS
Tel: 01227 811282
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Supply Lecturers to teach Learning Support and Teaching Assistants

Canterbury
Salary: £18,387 - £26,363 pro rata pa
Closing Date: Monday 12 January 2009 at Noon
Various hours available Canterbury College is a Further and Higher Education College in the heart of Kent. Our goal is to be one of the best FE Colleges in England by 2010. We have 9,000 students across 300 courses and enjoy an enviable reputation as a great place to learn. Our brand new £50M campus is also home to nearly 800 staff and we have some great career opportunities which may be right for you. For an information pack please visit www.canterburycollege.ac.uk or call the Human Resources Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone) quoting the post reference. Staff benefits include: • Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme • Proximity to Main Bus & Train stations • Close to City Centre • Sports Hall and Gym • Generous Holiday Allowance • Staff Discount Scheme.
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: S/HE/LS
Tel: 01227 811282
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

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To advertise in this section or online
01303 817040

Training Assistant for Bilingual Learners

Folkestone
Salary: £16,627 - £18,288 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Friday 2 January 2008
Term-time only (38 weeks), temporary post until 31st March 2010 You will work in both primary and secondary schools supporting pupils for whom English is an additional language, and working together with mainstream staff in order to raise the achievement of bilingual and ethnic minority pupils. You should have an understanding if initiatives for supporting children and young people in the most effective and appropriate way. You will need an understanding of the Foundation Stage, National Curriculum and current educational initiatives, as well as a qualifcation in learning support and evidence of Continuing Professional Development. You will be willing to travel in order to visit schools and there will be a mileage allowance payable. This post is subject to an Enhanced Disclosure application to the Criminal Records Bureau for which the employer will pay. For more information and an application form please contact: Miss S Spratley, Pent Valley Technology College, Surrenden Road, Folkestone, Kent CT19 4ED. Email or call on 01303 277161 ext 2218.
To apply/more information:
Miss S Spratley
Pent Vally Tech
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01303 277161
Email samantha.spratley@pent-valley.kent.sch.uk

Engineering, Manufacturing, Utilities

Electrical Maintenance Technician

Medway
Salary: £15,057 - £18,534
Closing Date: Friday 16 January 2009
The successful candidate will assist the Maintenance Manager in the maintenance and repair of electrical systems and carry-out testing, servicing and minor works, including replacement of electrical installations, fire and lighting systems. The applicant will be a qualified electrician and conversant with the 16th and/or 17th Edition Wiring Regulations. Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the Personnel department on 01634 884402 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number. Mid-Kent College is an equal opportunities employer.
To apply/more information:
Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: P0070
Tel: 01634 884402
Email
job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

Graduate, Trainees

Graduate Teacher Programmes Maths and Design Technology

Gravesend
Salary: £15,113 pa
Closing Date: Wednesday 31st December 2008
In collaboration with Canterbury Christ Church University College, we wish to offer the following: Trainee placement on the following Graduate Teacher Programmes: Maths & Design Technology The successful candidate will receive training from experienced teachers at Northfleet Technology College supplemented by a number of days provided by Canterbury University. The successful person must have at least 50% of their degree in their chosen subject. They need to be

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organised, self motivated and able to work independently. This very popular school of 900 boys, awarded specialist status in September 2003, is situated in the 'Thames Gateway' area of Kent, with excellent links to nearby London and the Channel coast. NTC is an exciting environment to work in, which is committed to the principle of lifelong learning for students and staff. There is a well established ethos of professional development for all our employees. We are looking for enthusiastic, hardworking individuals to join our team and if you enjoy working with young people, relish a challenge and feel you have the necessary skills for this post we would like to hear from you. Please contact Mrs Gill Taylor, our Initial Teacher Coordinator, for an informal chat about this opportunity and for further details. An application form can be obtained from by telephone 01474 533802, fax 01474 536122 or by email taylorg@ntc.kent.sch.uk. Please enclose/attach your CV. Do check our web site: www.ntc.kent.sch.uk.
To apply/more information:
Mrs Gill Taylor
Northfleet Technology College
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01474 533802
Email taylorg@ntc.kent.sch.uk

Health & Safety, Security, Defense

Security Patrol / Supervisor

Ashford
Salary: TBA
36 Hours Per Week includes some nights and weekends. SIA Licence is essential and full UK driving licence. Must be flexible with experience in security supervision. Call 01233 650160 for an application form.
To apply/more information:
Swift Security Services Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01233 650160
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Management, Senior Positions

Service Managers x 4 Psychological Therapies in Primary Care

Kent
Salary: £31,551 - £40,440 pro rata
Closing Date: 2 January 2008, 5pm
Based either in Kent or East Surrey, 18.75 hours per week Can you lead and inspire a successful service undergoing unprecedented expansion and challenge? KCA provides a wide range of high quality, innovative primary care mental health services. As a result of significant development successes, we are recruiting for four new Service Managers, based across Kent and East Surrey. You will be responsible for the day to day delivery of primary care mental health services in your area, focused on ensuring that the targets set by commissioners are achieved. You will work closely with commissioning teams, line manage psychological therapists and develop and manage partnerships with other agencies. There is an opportunity to take clinical work in addition to your management responsibilities, this could be for one or two days a week making the role either four days a week or full time. You will need experience of delivering or managing brief psychological therapies and a relevant qualification at diploma or degree level. A strong comittment to evidence based practice is vital and experience of quality assurance systems relevant to primary care/therapy (e.g CORE) would be an advantage. You will need to be self-motivated, innovative, able to inspire your team and possess empathy balanced with the ability to achieve goals. For an informal discussion, please contact Sam Downie, Assistant Director at sdownie@kca.org.uk An application form and job description can be downloaded from www.kca.org.uk/pages/vacancies or email us. Alternatively, you can write to KCA (UK), Dan House, 44 East Street, Faversham, Kent, ME13 8AT quoting the reference 538.
To apply/more information:
Sam Downie
KCA (UK)
Quoting Job Ref: 538
Tel: 01795 590635
Email sdownie@kca.org.uk

Motor Trade, Driver

Taxi Drivers

Sittingbourne
Salary: TBA
Full & part time taxi drivers required. www.a2cabs.co.uk.
To apply/more information:
Elaine
A2 Cabs Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01795 431500
Email elaine@a2cabs.co.uk

Vehicle Technician/ MOT Tester

Ashford
Salary: NEG
We now require additional skilled Vehicle Technician's. Applicants should be experienced in all aspects of service and repair of cars and light commercial vehicles and must be able to demonstrate a sound knowledge of vehicle systems and diagnosis. You will preferably be qualified to C & G level or equivalent. MOT Class IV, VII, and V light preferred but not essential. Experience in operation of Snap-on MODIS, air conditioning and engine rebuild work, an advantage. You will need to display a high level of initiative and professionalism in your work and appearance, and demonstrate good verbal and written communication skills at all times. Good time keeping is essential. 21 days annual holiday plus public and bank holidays. An excellent remuneration package awaits the right candidate. Heath plan available.
To apply/more information:
Gary Stewart
Riverside Garage Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kostech
Tel: 01233 665007
Email
service@riversidegarages.co.uk

Nursing, Medicine, Care Work

Handyman/Driver

Sidcup
Salary: Tba
We look after people with Learning Disabilities and whom may have challenging behaviours. We are currently recruiting for the above post. If you have a passion for the role and the experience, call John Parker now! CRB checks necessary. Loring Hall, 8 Water Lane, Sidcup, Kent, DA14 5ES.
To apply/more information:
John Parker
Oakfields Care
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 0208 3029302
Email loring@oakfields.net

Senior Support Workers

Sidcup
Salary: TBA
We look after people with Learning Difficulties and whom may have challenging behaviours. We are currently recruiting for the above position. If you have a passion for the role and the experience, call John Parker now. CRB checks necessary Loring Hall, 8 Water Lane, Sidcup, Kent DA14 5ES.
To apply/more information:
John Parker
Oakfields Care
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 0208 3029302
Email loring@oakfields.net

Support Workers

Sidcup
Salary: TBA
We look after people with Learning Disabilities and whom may have challenging behaviours. We are currently recruiting for the above post. If you have a passion for the role and the experience, call John Parker now! CRB checks necessary. Loring Hall, 8 Water Lane, Sidcup, Kent, DA14 5ES.
To apply/more information:
John Parker
Oakfields Care
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 0208 3029302
Email loring@oakfields.net

Support Workers (Dover, Canterbury and Thanet districts)

Kent
Salary: T.B.C.
East Kent Mencap is developing and expanding services across the Dover, Canterbury and Thanet districts. We are initially recruiting two full time positions and various permanent relief posts which are likely to lead to permanency in due course. Due to the nature of personalised services it is difficult to be specific as to exact roles at this point. For more information please contact our offices. EAST KENT MENCAP JOB DESCRIPTION Support Worker: Generic Responsible to: Team Leader - Manager- Supported Housing Areas of responsibility: Existing and Developing Services Purpose of Post: To Support the Coordinators, Team Leader and Manager to provide efficient and effective services (Generic). Supporting Individuals and groups - Housing, Day Services, Community Support, Clubs - all existing and future services Main Duties and Responsibilities: The following serves to highlight a typical list of responsibilities and tasks. The post holder must, in every instance, support people with Learning Disabilities to maximise decision making, choice and control of their own services and lives. The post holder will not undertake to complete general tasks as a quick option. East Kent Mencap is currently developing a raft of new services in areas covering Dover, Canterbury and Thanet. Participate and support the process of change of all East Kent Mencap services. Train and support People with Learning Disabilities in programmes relating to maintaining / developing the ability to live independently. Ensure that People with Learning Disabilities take the lead in the organisation and completion of tasks, activities etc. Review the progress and development Support the development of Person Centred Plans Assist people to explore risk and safe systems of working / record findings Facilitate focus Meetings Maintain progress records Maintain general records Liaise with other professionals and share agreed information to maximise services Ensure that welfare, dignity and choice is maintained Administer and record medication Follow all financial administration procedures Follow all Health & Safety protocols and assist in the development of "In House" strategies Activate emergency protocols in the case of accident / emergency Follow all Society Guidelines and Policies Participate in the development of services Participate in induction, training and development Participate in supervision, target setting and appraisal Ensure that concerns about work related issues are forwarded to Line Manager Ensure complaints about services are forwarded to Line Manager Perform general duties as required by the Society Employees will be expected to work across all current and future Units either owned or managed by East Kent Mencap. THIS JOB DESCRIPTION CAN BE MODIFIED (WITHIN THE GENERAL CONFINES OF THE POST AND ORGANISATION) IN NEGOTIATION WITH THE EMPLOYEE AS THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE POST DICTATES. Disabled Applicants who meet the minimum criteria will be offered an interview in every circumstance
To apply/more information:
Lynda Salisbury
East Kent Mencap
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01843-224482
Email Lynda.Salisbury@eastkentmencap.co.uk

Waking Night Staff

Sidcup
Salary: TBA
We look after people with Learning Disabilities and whom may have challenging behaviours. We are currently recruiting for the above post. If you have a passion for the role and the experience, call John Parker now! CRB checks necessary. Loring Hall, 8 Water Lane, Sidcup, Kent, DA14 5ES.
To apply/more information:
John Parker
Oakfields Care
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 0208 3029302
Email loring@oakfields.net

Public Sector, Social Services

Senior Economic Policy Officer

Sittingbourne
Salary: £40,000 + Benefits
Closing Date: 29 December 2008
Thames Gateway Kent Partnership. If you've proven economic analysis skills and a creative approach, this is your chance to play a central role in the growth of Thames Gateway - Europe's biggest regeneration project. For further details on this position please see the full advert on http://jobs.swale.gov.uk or contact Human Resources, Tel 01795 417414 (24 hour voice mail) quoting the reference.
To apply/more information:
Swale Borough Council
Quoting Job Ref: 300TG3
Tel: 01795 417414
Email hr@swale.gov.uk

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PUBLIC NOTICES

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL
TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACTS
NOTICES OF APPLICATIONS

The following applications have been submitted to the Council and are being advertised for the reason(s) given in each case.

TM/08/03625/FL – Former Caradon Doors And Windows Ltd College Road Aylesford Kent ME20 7SX – Mr Andrew Dickman is applying for telephone engineering centre with separate Motor Transport Workshop (MOT Testing Centre) and associated storage and parking areas. Reason: MD

TM/08/03646/FL – The Spotted Cow 742 London Road Larkfield Aylesford Kent ME20 6BG – Blackstone New Homes are applying for demolition of existing building and construction of 2 no. 1bed flats, 10 no. 2 bed flats and commercial space on the ground floor. Reason: MD

TM/08/03667/FL – 751- 757 London Road Larkfield Aylesford Kent ME20 6DE – Blackstone Estates are applying for demolition of existing buildings and construction of 2no. ground floor commercial units and 11no. residential flats and 2no. semi-detached dwellings. Reason: MD

TM/08/03161/LB – Stone House The Street Ightham Sevenoaks Kent TN15 9HH – Louise Tillett is applying for Listed Building Application: Lower floor in existing cellar, form new doorway and stone staircase up to existing terrace, to convert into dining. Reason: LB CA

TM/08/02834/FL – 2 Oldbury Close Ightham Sevenoaks Kent TN15 9DJ – Mr Temple And Mrs Hudson are applying for single storey rear extension. Reason: CA

TM/08/03306/FL – Oakwood Poultry Farm And Land At Oakwood And Oakwood Farm Cottage Vigo Road Fairseat Sevenoaks Kent TN15 7LT – Messrs P, K + R Durrant are applying for demolition of 981m_ floorspace, change of use of 3 poultry buildings and barn to light industrial (B1C) uses and associated landscaping. Reason: MD

Reasons for the case being publicised:

LB Application relates to/affects a Listed Building or its setting
CA Application is within/affects a Conservation Area
MD Application is a Major Development

These applications are displayed on our website www.tmbc.gov.uk – click on the button "Do It Online" and follow the instructions for "Planning Applications" online. You can submit your comments by emailing to planning.applications@tmbc.gov.uk (please quote the application number by the date set out below).

Copies of applications listed may be seen during office hours (8.30 am and 5.00 pm Monday to Friday). Any applications within Hadlow, Hildenborough and Tonbridge are available at Tonbridge Castle, Tonbridge. Other applications are available at the office of the Director of Planning, Transport & Leisure, Gibson Building, Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4LZ.
Any representations should be made in writing quoting the application number by 18 January 2009.

David Hughes
Chief Executive
28 December 2008

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

The Insolvency Act 1986
AQUARIUS PROPERTY MAINTENANCE LIMITED
(Company Number 04284084)
Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a meeting of the creditors of the above-named Company will be held at Gable House, 239 Regents Park Road, London N3 1LF, on Tuesday 13 January 2009, at 12.00 noon for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99, 100 and 101 of the said Act. A list of the names and addresses of the Company's Creditors will be available for inspection, free of charge, at the offices of SPW Poppleton & Appleby, Gable House, 239 Regents Park Road, Finchley, London N3 1LF, on the two business days prior to the Meeting.
Dated: 18 December 2008
By Order of the Board
J.R. Laurel, Director

The Insolvency Act 1986
G M BARNARD LIMITED
(Company No: 05248881)
Notice is hereby given, in pursuance of Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a Meeting of Creditors of the above named Company will be held at Gerald Edelman Business Recovery, Gateway House, Highpoint Business Village, Henwood, Ashford, Kent, TN24 8DH on Tuesday 20th January 2009 at 12.00 noon for the purposes mentioned in sections 99 to 101 of the said Act, to receive a statement of the Company's affairs, to nominate one or more Insolvency Practitioner/s as Liquidator/s, and to consider the appointment of a Liquidation Committee. If a Liquidation Committee is not formed, the Meeting may be asked to consider other Resolutions, including the basis upon which the Liquidator/s is/are to be remunerated, and for the approval of the costs of preparing the statement of affairs and convening the Meetings. Creditors wishing to vote at the Meeting must lodge a form of Proxy, together with a full statement of account, at the Registered Office of the Company, c/o Gerald Edelman Business Recovery, Gateway House, Highpoint Business Village, Henwood, Ashford, Kent, TN24 8DH, not later than 12.00 noon on Monday 19th January 2009. For the purposes of voting, a Secured Creditor is required, unless he surrenders his security, to lodge at the Registered Office of the Company as above, before the meeting, a statement giving full particulars of his security, the date when it was given, and the value at which it is assessed. Notice is further given that a list of the names and addresses of the Company's creditors may be inspected, free of charge at, Gerald Edelman Business Recovery at Gateway House, Highpoint Business Village, Henwood, Ashford, Kent TN24 8DH between the hours of 10.00 am and 4.00 pm on the two business days preceding the date of the meeting stated above.
Dated: 15 December 2008
By Order of the Board
Michael Barnard, Director

The Insolvency Act 1986
ESP TECHNOLOGIES GROUP LIMITED
(Company Number 02870931)
Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a meeting of creditors of the above-named Company will be held at the offices of Smith & Williamson Limited, First Floor, 89 King Street, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1BG, on 9 January 2009, at 3.00 pm for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99, 100 and 101 of the said Act. Creditors wishing to vote at the Meeting must lodge a full statement of account and (unless attending in person) a proxy with the company at the offices of Smith & Williamson Limited, 89 King Street, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1BG, no later than 12.00 noon on the business day before the Meeting of Creditors. Secured Creditors must, unless they surrender their security, give particulars of their security, the date when it was given, and its assessed value if they wish to vote at the Meeting. Resolutions to be taken at the meeting may include a Resolution specifying the terms upon which the Joint Liquidators are to be remunerated and the creditors may receive information about or be called upon to approve the costs of preparing the Statement of Affairs and the costs of convening the Meeting of Creditors. A list of the names and addresses of the Company's creditors will be available for inspection free of charge, at the offices of Smith & Williamson Limited, First Floor, 89 King Street, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1BG, between 10.00 am and 4.00 pm on the two business days prior to the Meeting of Creditors.
S Hood, Director

The Insolvency Act 1986
XP PRINT LIMITED
Also known as Xpress Printing
(Company Number 4056696)
Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a meeting of the creditors of the above-named Company will be held at First Floor, 89 King Street, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1BG, on 9 January 2009, at 11.30 am for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99, 100 and 101 of the said Act.
Creditors wishing to vote at the Meeting must lodge a full statement of account and (unless attending in person) a proxy with the company at the offices of Smith & Williamson Limited, First Floor, 89 King Street, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1BG, no later than 12.00 noon on the business day before the Meeting of Creditors. Secured Creditors must, unless they surrender their security, give particulars of their security, the date when it was given, and its assessed value if they wish to vote at the Meeting. Resolutions to be taken at the meeting may include a Resolution specifying the terms upon which the Joint Liquidators are to be remunerated and the creditors may receive information about or be called upon to approve the costs of preparing the Statement of Affairs and the costs of convening the Meeting of Creditors.
A list of the names and addresses of the Company's creditors will be available for inspection free of charge, at the offices of Smith & Williamson Limited, First Floor, 89 King Street, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1BG between 10.00 am and 4.00 pm on the two business days prior to the Meeting of Creditors.
Dated: 16 December 2008
By Order of the Board
J Fabre, Director

To advertise in this section
01303 817040

PREMISES NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that 48 St Dunstan's Street, Canterbury CT2 8BY, has applied to Canterbury City Council to sell alcohol from 06.00-23.00 of sell only from the premises Newspoint, situated at 48 St Dunstan's Street, Canterbury CT2 8BY.

A register of licensing applications can be inspected at http://www.canterbury.gov.uk/licensing or at Council Offices, Military Road, Canterbury, Kent CT1 1YW, tel: 01227 862000 by appointment with the Licensing Team between 10am and 4pm Monday to Friday.

Any person wishing to submit representations to my/our application must give notice in writing to the address shown above, giving in detail the grounds of objection by 16/01/2009.

The Council will not entertain representations where the writer requests that his identity remains anonymous. Copies of all representations will be included in the papers presented to the Licensing Panel and will therefore pass into the public domain. Representations must relate to one of the four Licensing Objectives: the prevention of crime and disorder, public safety, the prevention of public nuisance and and the protection of children from farm. In the case of an application for a provisional statement, please note that representations will be restricted once a statement has been issued.

The Insolvency Act 1986
CHI BUILDING SERVICES LIMITED
(In Creditors Voluntary Liquidation)
Company Number 04385504
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that we, Ian Yerrill and Bernard Hoffman both of Gerald Edelman Business Recovery, Gateway House, Highpoint Business Village, Henwood, Ashford, Kent, TN24 8DH were appointed Joint Liquidators of the above named Company by the Members and Creditors on 17 December 2008.
I Yerrill and B Hoffman,
Joint Liquidators

AUTO SYSTEMS INDUSTRIES LIMITED
(Company Number 3636481)
Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a meeting of the creditors of the above-named Company will be held at Victory House, Quayside, Chatham Maritime, Kent, ME4 4QU, on 21 January 2009, at 11.00 am for the purposes mentioned in Section 99 to 101 of the said Act.
Resolutions to be taken at the Meeting may include a Resolution specifying the terms on which the Liquidator is to be remunerated, and the Meeting may receive information about, or be called upon to approve, the costs of preparing the statement of affairs and convening the Meeting. Creditors wishing to vote at the meeting must lodge their proxy, together with a full statement of account at Victory House, Quayside, Chatham Maritime, Kent ME4 4QU not later than 12.00 noon on the business day preceding the meeting.
For the purposes of voting, a secured creditor is required (unless he surrenders his security) to lodge a statement at Victory House, Quayside, Chatham Maritime, Kent ME4 4QU before the meeting, giving particulars of his security, the date when it was given and the value at which it is assessed. Notice is further given that a list of the names and addresses of the Company's creditors may be inspected, free of charge, at Victory House, Quayside, Chatham Maritime, Kent, ME4 4QU, between 10.00 am and 4.00 pm on the two business days preceding the date of the meeting stated above.
Dated: 13 December 2008
Clive Millgate, Director

The Insolvency Act 1986
LION ESTATES LONDON LIMITED
(Company Number 05521273)
Notice is hereby given that Duncan Beat of Tenon Recovery, Sherlock House, 73 Baker Street, London W1U 6RD, was appointed Liquidator of the above Company on 19th December 2008. Creditors are required on or before the 6th February 2009, to send in their names and addresses with particulars of their debts or claims, to the Liquidator, and if so required by notice in writing from the Liquidator, personally or by their solicitors, to come in and prove their debts as such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proven.
Dated: 19 December 2008
Duncan Beat, Liquidator

Highways - District of Ashford

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(Perrywood Road, Chilham) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of works to provide a new water supply, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Perrywood Road, Chilham approximately 100 metres south of the junction with Stumpers Road. The works are programmed for an estimated period of 2 days and will start on or after 12 January 2009. The Order will be in force for a maximum period of 18 months or until the works are completed, whichever is sooner.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Stumpers Road, Reynolds Grove Road and Fisher Street Road.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(various roads, Ashford) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because Carriageway Surfacing works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on various roads, Ashford from as described in column 1 of the schedule to this order on 29 December 2008 for an estimated period of three months or until such works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via as described in column 3 of the schedule to this order.

Specified Road	Length of Road Affected	Alternative Routes
Maidstone Road, Ashford	Approach to roundabout jct Fougeres Way	For HGV's: M20 and A20 For Light Traffic: Sandyhurst Lane, A251, A251 Trinity Road, A20 Fougeres Way (20:00 to midnight)
Ruckinge Road Ham Street, Ashford	The Street to Carters Wood	A2070 Romney Road, Hamstreet Road and Marsh Road (19:30 to 05:00)
Goldwell Lane, Great Chart	Vitters Oak Lane to Purchase	A28 Ashford Road, Sandy Lane, Old Surrenden Road, Park Lane and Etchden Road (19:30 start)

This order will come into force on Monday 29 December 2008, will be in operation when the appropriate signs are erected, and will remain valid for a period of eighteen months. The order will allow the above mentioned restrictions to be implemented as and when required for works of a similar nature at any time for the duration of the order.

Highways - District of Canterbury

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(Chapel Row, Herne) (RESTRICTIONS ON PEDESTRIANS) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because of works to lay a new water main, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order closing footpath CH/41 to pedestrians for the entire length of Chapel Row, Herne. The works are programmed for an estimated period of 6 weeks and will start on 12 January 2009. The closure will be in rolling sections and access will be maintained wherever possible. The order will be in force for 6 months or until the works are completed, whichever is sooner.

The alternative route for pedestrians will be via Herne Street, School Lane and Footway CH39/1

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(Best Lane, Canterbury) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because water valve replacement works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Best Lane, Canterbury, at its junction with High Street, on or after 12 January 2009, for an estimated period of two weeks or until such works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via St Peter's Street and The Friars.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(Radfall Road, Chestfield) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because Carriageway Surfacing works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Radfall Road, Chestfield from bend at Gypsy Corner on 29 December 2008 for an estimated period of three months or until such works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via as described in column 3 of the schedule to this order.

Specified Road	Length of Road Affected	Alternative Routes
Radfall Road, Chestfield	Bend at Gypsy Corner	Blean Hill, Tile Kiln Hill, Whitstable Road, St Thomas Hill, Forty Acres Road and Beaconsfield Road (to be supplemented by Tyler Hill Road and Calais Hill). Thornden Wood Road closed at junction with diversion along Molehill Road, Chestfield Road and then South Street, Thanet Way, Clapham Hill, Pean Hill, Honey Hill and Blean Common.

This order will come into force on Monday 29 December 2008, will be in operation when the appropriate signs are erected, and will remain valid for a period of eighteen months. The order will allow the above mentioned restrictions to be implemented as and when required for works of a similar nature at any time for the duration of the order.

Highways - District of Dover

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(various roads, Dover) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because Carriageway Surfacing works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on various roads, Dover as described in column 1 of the schedule to this order on or after 29 December 2008 for an estimated period of three months or until such works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via as described in column 3 of the schedule to this order.

Specified Road	Length of Road Affected	Alternative Routes
Crabble Hill/ lLondon Road, Dover	Mangers Lane to Pilgrims Way including Crabble Road	Buckland Avenue, Barton Road, Frith Road, A256 Maison Dieu Road, A20 Townwall Street, A2 Jubilee Way, A2, A256 Whitfield Hill. (20:00 start)
Manor Road, Deal	Homestead Court to London Road	Mongeham Road, St Richards Road and Mill Hill (08:00 - 18:00)
Dover Road, Ringwould	B2057 to 315	A258, A256, A2 (20:00 to midnight)
Dover Road, Walmer	200 - 190	Station Road, Court Road and Salisbury Road (20:00 to midnight)

This order will come into force on Monday 29 December 2008, will be in operation when the appropriate signs are erected and will remain valid for a period of eighteen months. The order will allow the above mentioned restrictions to be implemented as and when required for works of a similar nature at any time for the duration of the order.

Highways - Borough of Maidstone

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(CRUMP'S LANE, ULCOMBE) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2009 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Crump's Lane from Kingsnoad heading East for 550metres on or after Monday 12th January 2009 for a period of up to 3 weeks or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the route described above is for westbound traffic via Lenham Road, Eastwood Road, Headcorn Road and for eastbound traffic vice versa.

EDF Energy apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary to install a new electricity supply, should you require any further information regarding these works, their contact is Emma Orsborne of Amber Langis Limited on 01474 573831.

Highways - District of Shepway

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(various roads, Shepway) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because Carriageway Surfacing works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on various roads, Shepway from as described in column 1 of the schedule to this order on 29 December 2008 for an estimated period of three months or until such works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via as described in column 3 of the schedule to this order.

Specified Road	Length of Road Affected	Alternative Routes
Dover Road	Dover Road to Tontine Street	Southern Way, The Tram Road, Harbour Street and Tontine Street
Castle Hill Avenue	Approach to roundabout junction Sandgate Road	Bouverie Road West and Sandgate Road

This order will come into force on Monday 29 December 2008, will be in operation when the appropriate signs are erected, and will remain valid for a period of eighteen months. The order will allow the above mentioned restrictions to be implemented as and when required for works of a similar nature at any time for the duration of the order.

Highways - Borough of Swale

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(various roads, Swale) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because Carriageways Surfacing works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on various roads, Swale from as described in column 1 of the schedule to this order on or after 29 December 2008 for an estimated period of three months or until such works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via as described in column 3 of the schedule to this order.

Specified Road	Length of Road Affected	Alternative Routes
Key Street roundabout, Swale	Complete roundabout	Milton Road, Mill Way, Saffron Way, Grovehurst Road, A249
Crown Quay Lane, Sittingbourne	A2 St Michaels Road to B2006 Eurolink Way	Eurolink Way, Milton Road, St Michaels Road (20:00 start)

This order will come into force on Monday 29 December 2008, will be in operation when the appropriate signs are erected, and will remain valid for a period of eighteen months. The order will allow the above mentioned restrictions to be implemented as and when required for works of a similar nature at any time for the duration of the order.

Highways - District of Thanet

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(Princes Street Margate) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because Scaffolding and crane works works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Princes Street Margate from Between the junctions with Cecil Street and Addington Street on or after 29 December 2008 for an estimated period of 2 days or until such works are complete. The Order will remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via via Cecil Street, Hawley Square and Addington Street.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(various roads, Thanet) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because Carriageway Surfacing works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on various roads, Thanet from as described in column 1 of the schedule to this order on or after 29 December 2008 for an estimated period of three months or until such works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via as described in column 3 of the schedule to this order.

Specified Road	Length of Road Affected	Alternative Routes
Canterbury Road, Westgate	London bound junction with Cambourne Avenue, Coast bound junction with Church Street	Minster Road, Shottendane Road, Manston Road and Park Lane (20:00 to midnight)
Albion Road, St Peters	Junction with Church Street	Beacon Road, Grange Road, Callis Court Road and Albion Road. Also High Street St Peter's, Sowell Street and Albion Road (20:00 to midnight)

This order will come into force on Monday 29 December 2008, will be in operation when the appropriate signs are erected, and will remain valid for a period of eighteen months. This order will allow the above mentioned restrictions to be implemented as and when required for works of a similar nature at any time for the duration of the order.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(Watchester Lane, Minster) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because new sewer works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting traffic on Watchester Lane, Minster from its junction with Cornellis Drive west to the property The Brambles on or after 12 January 2009 for an estimated period of 3 weeks or until such works are complete. The Order will remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months.

There is no alternative route for through traffic.

Highways - Borough Tonbridge & Malling

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(EXEDOWN ROAD, WROTHAM) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intend to make an Order prohibiting the use by traffic on Exedown Road , Wrotham at the junction of Old Terry Lodge Road to the junction of Pilgrims way. This order will come into effect on or after Wednesday 14th 2009 for a period of up to 2 Weekes or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the route described above is for Southbound traffic via Old Terry Lodge Road and Kemsing Road. And northbound Traffic Vice versa

South East Water apologise for any inconvenience caused, which are necessary for works on the exiting main. Should you require any further information about these works, the contact is Nicola Stone on 01645 873290.

For further information, please contact Kent Highway Services, on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

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Nissan hits a new high Note for '09

By **SAM DAVISON**

NISSAN'S highly flexible Note family model gets a new look and ground-breaking kit for 2009, prices start at £450 less too.

Pitched as a family hatchback-cum-MPV, this replacement for the old Almera has never been 'Noted' for its looks, but it makes up with its 'can do' interior design and space.

Nevertheless, Nissan has improved the cosmetics with a new nose featuring reshaped bonnet and bumper, streamlined headlights and a shiny black finish grille. The tail lights have also been darkened.

More significant perhaps is how the new-look Note marks the debut for 'Nissan Connect', a fully-integrated audio, phone and satellite navigation system fitted as standard with Tekna flagship trim and as a £400 option on the mid-range Acenta.

Visia remains the entry-level trim and is now more accessible from £9,795, yet boasts decent standard equipment including MP3 player jack, rear sliding seat, front electric windows, four airbags and three rear headrests, though air-con is a £500 option.

The top-of-the-range Tekna (from £13,695) comes with Nissan Connect, rear parking sensors, 16-inch alloys, climate control, part leather seats, electric folding door mirrors, electronic stability control, rear privacy glass, rain sensing wipers and interior chrome detailing.

All models continue to feature the clever flexi-board for the boot, enabling taller items to be carried or hidden out of sight and this can now be positioned vertically to steady items while the car is moving.

What has not changed in the Note's near perfect balance of reliable and versatile engine, comprising 1.4 and 1.6-litre petrol and 1.5dCi diesel units.

However, Nissan has tweaked the 1.5dCi to emit a CO2 level of just 119g/km and deliver a pump-friendly average of around 60mpg, while the 1.4 petrol unit produces 139g/km of CO2 with a respectable average of nearly 50mpg.

With a CO2 reading below 140g/km, this means those units qualify for Nissan's 'Pure Drive' badge – used for the Japanese brand's most eco-friendly models.

Low insurance groups from 4E also help the Note's powerful argument as a smart and economical family model, especially for owners seeking to downsize from larger and less environmentally-friendly cars.

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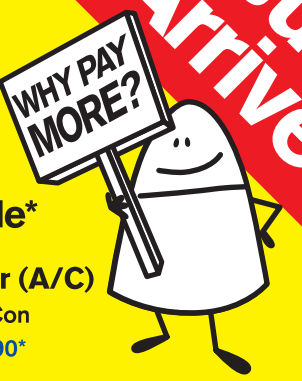

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AutoPlanet Price £6299
Choice of 365 Medium cars
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56 Reg Vauxhall
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Parkers Price £7905*
AutoPlanet Price £6999
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06 Reg Peugeot
407 2.0 HDi 136 S 4dr
Met Paint • Climate • CD • E/Pack • Cruise
Parkers Price £7075*
AutoPlanet Price £6799
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55 Reg Citroen
Picasso 1.8i 16v Exclusive 5dr
Met Paint • Alloys • Climate • CD • Cruise
Parkers Price £5445*
AutoPlanet Price £4999
Choice of 140 MPVs
A fair saving of £446

55 Reg Vauxhall
Zafira 1.6i Life 5dr (AC)
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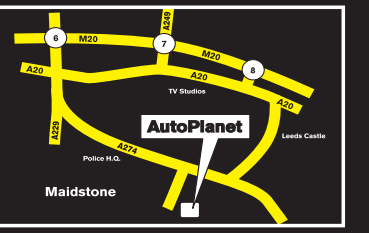

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GL54HYC	FABIA ELEGANCE 5DR HATCH	1.4 16V 100BHP (PETROL)	14290	SATIN GREY
GX02VOY	FABIA ELEGANCE 5DR HATCH	2.0 MPI (PETROL)	70334	STONE GREY
GN03XJD	FABIA ELEGANCE 5DR HATCH	2.0 MPI (PETROL)	14864	DIAMOND SILVER
CV06AFU	FABIA VRS 5DR HATCH	1.9 TDI 130BHP (DIESEL)	40318	BLACK MAGIC
GJ57WCE	FABIA 1 5DR HATCH	1.2 12V 70BHP (PETROL)	6581	TANGERINE ORANGE
GJ08YLU	FABIA 2 5DR HATCH	1.2 12V 70BHP (PETROL)	6242	STORM BLUE
KS57EHD	FABIA 2 5DR HATCH	1.4 TDI 80BHP (DIESEL)	5874	SATIN GREY
GJ08VBE	FABIA 3 5DR HATCH	1.4 TDI 80BHP (DIESEL)	7687	FLAMENCO RED
WP05KTX	FABIA CLASSIC 5DR ESTATE	1.2 12V 64BHP (PETROL)	14706	DIAMOND SILVER
GJ55OVP	FABIA AMBIENTE 5DR ESTATE	1.2 12V 64BHP (PETROL)	19902	DIAMOND SILVER
GF55UKC	FABIA AMBIENTE 5DR ESTATE	1.2 12V 64BHP (PETROL)	23600	GRAPHITE GREY
GJ05WYV	FABIA AMBIENTE 5DR ESTATE	1.9 TDI100BHP (DIESEL)	36801	GRAPHITE GREY
Y506TKM	FABIA ELEGANCE 5DR ESTATE	1.4 16V 100BHP (PETROL)	65220	DIAMOND SILVER
GL08DDY	FABIA 1 5DR ESTATE	1.2 12V 70BHP (PETROL)	3845	STORM BLUE
GJ08VBF	FABIA 2 5DR ESTATE	1.4 16V85BHP (PETROL)	TBA	STORM BLUE
ROOMSTER				
GJ08VBK	ROOMSTER 2 5DR MPV	1.6 16V105BHP (PETROL)	7032	OLIVE GREEN
GJ08YLR	ROOMSTER SCOUT 5DR HATCH	1.9 TDI 105BHP (DIESEL)	2386	POLAR BLUE
OCTAVIA				
GF56DXZ	OCTAVIA CLASSIC 5DR HATCH	1.6 16V 115BHP (PETROL)	27221	CORRIDA RED
GL07TTY	OCTAVIA AMBIENTE 5DR HATCH	1.9 TDI 105BHP (DIESEL)	12828	CORRIDA RED
GL07CFV	OCTAVIA AMBIENTE 5DR HATCH	1.9 TDI 105BHP (DIESEL)	14006	BLACK MAGIC
GL07CFJ	OCTAVIA AMBIENTE 5DR HATCH	1.9 TDI DSG 105BHP (DIESEL)	13396	CAPPUCCINO BEIGE
KS57EEA	OCTAVIA AMBIENTE 5DR HATCH	1.9 TDI 105BHP (DIESEL)	10585	BRILLIANT SILVER
GJ08VAU	OCTAVIA AMBIENTE 5DR HATCH	1.9 TDI 105BHP (DIESEL)	5505	SATIN GREY
KS54HHX	OCTAVIA ELEGANCE 5DR HATCH	1.9 TDI 105BHP (DIESEL)	35951	GRAPHITE GREY
GL57YKV	OCTAVIA ELEGANCE 5DR HATCH	1.9 TDI 105BHP (DIESEL)	3501	SATIN GREY
HT54LSV	OCTAVIA ELEGANCE 5DR HATCH	2.0 TDI 140BHP (DIESEL)	92398	STORM BLUE
GK08ZNX	OCTAVIA L&K 5DR HATCH	2.0 TDI 140BHP (DIESEL)	4807	BLACK MAGIC
GK05OJY	OCTAVIA VRS 5DR HATCH	1.8 20V TURBO 180BHP (PETROL)	32082	DIAMOND SILVER
GF57HKO	OCTAVIA VRS 5DR HATCH	2.0 TDI 170BHP (DIESEL)	3751	CORRIDA RED
LT52SNN	OCTAVIA AMBIENTE 5DR ESTATE	1.6 MPI (PETROL)	39486	DIAMOND SILVER
GJ08VAV	OCTAVIA AMBIENTE 5DR ESTATE	2.0 TDI DSG 140BHP (DIESEL)	6046	STORM BLUE
GL08XRC	OCTAVIA L&K 5DR ESTATE	2.0 FSI AUTO 150BHP (PETROL)	TBA	ISLAND GREEN
GJ08YLX	OCTAVIA L&K 5DR ESTATE	2.0 TDI DSG 140BHP (DIESEL)	TBA	BRILLIANT SILVER
SUPERB				
OU03OPF	SUPERB ELEGANCE 4DR SALOON	2.8 V6 (PETROL)	54292	SAHARA BEIGE
GJ55OUX	SUPERB ELEGANCE 4DR SALOON	1.9 TDI130BHP	21822	SAHARA BEIGE
KV57BVX	SUPERB ELEGANCE 4DR SALOON	2.0 TDI 140BHP (DIESEL)	11277	BLACK MAGIC

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Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
05	55	Corsa Sxi	1.2	3	Ultra blue	12,380	5,150
06	56	Corsa Design	1.4	3	Air blue	15,800	7,495
08	08	Corsa VXR	1.6	3	Arden blue	4,700	13,995
05	55	Corsa Sxi	1.2	3	Ultra blue	12,380	5,150
06	56	Corsa Design	1.4	3	Air blue	15,800	7,495
08	08	Corsa VXR	1.6	3	Arden blue	4,700	13,995
08	08	Corsa Design	1.4	3	Star silver	TBA	10,495
08	08	Corsa Design CDTi	1.3D	5	Metro blue	TBA	11,345
08	08	Corsa Design	1.3D	3	Star silver	TBA	10,495
08	08	Corsa Breeze CDTi	1.3D	3	Star silver	TBA	9,795
08	08	Corsa Breeze CDTi	1.3D	3	Flame red	TBA	9,495
08	08	Corsa Breeze CDTi	1.3D	3	Star silver	TBA	9,795
08	08	Corsa Breeze CDTi	1.3D	3	Star silver	TBA	9,795
08	08	Corsa Breeze CDTi	1.3D	3	Star silver	TBA	9,795

Signum

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
07	57	Exclusiv CDTi Nav	1.9D	5	Star silver	9,950	12,995

Agila

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
01	51	Agila Enjoy	1.2	5	Green tea	76,350	2,595
08	08	Agila Design	1.2	5	Atlanta blue	1,750	9,350

Tigra

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
06	06	Tigra Exclusiv	1.4	2	Star silver	15975	9.495
08	08	Tigra Exclusiv	1.4	2	Antigua	9,650	11,995

Meriva

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
04	04	Meriva Life A/c	1.6	5	Spearmint silver	43,000	4,695
06	56	Design CDTi Ext pack	1.7D	5	Metro blue	29,170	7,995
08	08	Meriva CDTi Breeze +	1.3D	5	Star silver	3,350	11,995
08	08	Meriva Life A/c	1.4	5	Lancelot	2,870	8,495
08	08	Meriva Breeze	1.4	5	Black sapphire	12,500	8,995

Astra

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
00	00*	Astra Club Auto	1.6	5	Silver	37,000	2,695
05	55	Astra Breeze	1.6	5	Silver lightening	38,000	6,795
06	06	Astra Sxi CDTi	1.7D	5	Silver lightening	20.850	7,695
07	07	Astra Energy Auto	1.8	5	Star Silver	15,300	7,575
07	57	Astra Club CDTi Est	1.3D	5	Panacotta	8,275	9,995
07	57	Astra Club CDTi	1.7D	5	Star silver	10,680	9,695
07	57	Astra SRI	1.8	5	Silver Lightning	9,650	8,995
07	57	Astra Sport Twin Top	1.8	2	Star Silver	14,650	11,995
08	57	Astra Breeze Plus	1.7D	5	Star silver	12,300	10,995
08	57	Astra Club CDTi Est	1.3D	5	Star silver	17,300	10,495
08	08	Astra SXI	1.4	5	Black Sapphire	6,300	9.495
08	08	Astra Breeze CDTi	17D	5	Star Silver	9,350	10,495
08	08	Exclusive IS200 Conv	1.9D	2	Black	8,885	16,995
08	08	Sxi Sports Hatch	1.4	3	Star silver	7,350	9,995
08	08	Sri CDTi Ext pack	1.9D	5	Star silver	5,630	13,995
08	08	Sxi Sports Hatch	1.4	3	Black sapphire	3,200	9,995
08	08	Astra Club Auto	1.8	5	Star silver	3,460	10,895
08	08	Astra Sxi	1.6	5	Moonland	4,500	9,495
08	08	Astra Breeze Plus	1.4	3	Black sapphire	TBA	10,495
08	08	Astra Breeze	1.4	5	Black sapphire	TBA	9,995

Vectra

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
05	05	Vectra Sri	2.2	5	Star silver	30,550	6,995
05	55	Exclusive CDTi Est	1.9D	5	Star silver	23,800	7,995
08	57	CDTi Excl Auto	1.9D	5	Ultra blue	5,350	11,995
08	08	Exclusive CDTi	1.9D	5	Silver	9,380	10,495
08	08	Vectra Exclusiv	1.8	5	Black sapphire	6,000	8,495

Zafira

Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£
05	05	Zafira Life	1.8	5	Ultra blue	38,250	5,995
05	05	Zafira Design	1.6	5	Star silver	39,000	6,195
05	05	Zafira Life A/c	1.8	5	Star silver	52,300	5,995
05	55	New Zafira Life A/c	1.6	5	Flame red	31,650	6,995
08	08	New Breeze CDTi +	1.9D	5	Star silver	3,985	13,995
08	08	Zafira Club CDTi	1.9D	5	Star silver	8,500	12,495
05	55	Zafira Club	1.6	5	Silver lightening	43,000	7,145

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Superb offer – a small cheque buys big Czech

DrivingReview

by **STEVE LOADER**

CHIEF DRIVING CORRESPONDENT
steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk

SkodaSuperb

THERE is nothing new about Skoda's ambition to build a luxury flagship model.

Its original Superb was launched in 1934 and with a sense of timing that sounds eerily familiar.

For the Czech car market was in crisis and the Government was wielding the blunt instrument of fuel taxation to fund the rail network and drive people into smaller cars.

We could just as easily be talking about the arrival of the latest Superb in the UK – could there be a worse time to launch a big posh motor like this?

Maybe not, but such quality and luxury should cost you double the price and looks exceptional value against mainstream rivals listed in our facts panel.

Okay, the badge still does not convince everyone, but doubters are in danger of being bracketed with the Flat Earth Society; here in the real world, we know all about Volkswagen underpinnings and Skoda value and many people have 'bought a VW for Skoda money' and been happy enough to say so – the Czech brand is perennially at or near the top of customer satisfaction polls.

And unlike the new Superb's predecessor (2002-08) – little more than a stretched version of the previous VW Passat – the new car shows how Skoda is trusted to raid the VW corporate parts bin, but spin more individual products than in the past.

So, the new Superb no longer echoes a Passat and, just to underline the point, has a rear-end treatment unique in the marketplace – it can be boot or hatchback. Switching from one to the other works pretty well too, with a powered latching mechanism, huge load area and a typically Skoda array of hooks and lashing points for unruly items and bags.

I'm still not sure about the car's styling – it looks a little nose heavy – but there is no question that it oozes class and impact whether you respect the badge or not.

Standard spec is generous and everything opens and closes with a satisfying clunk rather than a worrying clang and, while interior materials cannot quite match some more upmarket brands, the build quality shames some snooty rivals, especially at these prices.

The car will truly seat five in comfort, but four in luxury is better; those in the rear can luxuriate in limo-like leg and headroom with individual reading lights and vents.

Upfront is a well-organised and tasteful dashboard and our Elegance flagship model featured powered and heated front seats as standard – the cream leather looked like it should be on a much dearer car.

The test car's engine was the most powerful 2.0-litre diesel option, the 170bhp CR unit, which makes this big motor quick off the line, even if it can sound gruff when cold.

The VW six-speed twin-clutch Direct Shift Gearbox (DSG) fitted to our car was also stunning, allowing seamless changes in fully auto mode or more aggression using the slick manual selection option.

Not that you want to throw the big Superb around; its bulk and a tendency to crash through bumps when pressed soon persuade you to stick to smooth straight line cruising instead.

Will it appeal to well-heeled people who want to downsize their budget rather than status in this recession? Possibly, but I suspect this Superb will find more buyers amongst those who need a big car to tow a caravan. Taxi and private

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*ON THE ROAD RECOMMENDED PRICES AND OFFERS APPLY TO QUALIFYING NEW CITROËN VEHICLES ORDERED 01-31/12/08 AND REGISTERED BY 31/01/09 (NEW C4 MODELS BUILT AFTER 01/08/08 ONLY) AND INCLUDE VAT, DELIVERY TO DEALER AND NUMBER PLATES, GOVERNMENT FIRST REGISTRATION FEE, AND 12 MONTHS' GRADUATED VEHICLE EXCISE DUTY. BLACK/METALLIC PAINT OPTIONAL AT EXTRA COST. PRICES SHOWN INCLUDE THE DEDUCTION OF THE APPROPRIATE MANUFACTURER'S CASHBACK OR DEALER CONTRIBUTION FROM THE MANUFACTURER'S ON THE ROAD RECOMMENDED RETAIL PRICES. °EXTRA URBAN CYCLE. MODELS SHOWN: NEW C4 1.6 16V VTi 120HP EXCLUSIVE HATCHBACK £14,288.30, C1 1.0i 68HP 3-DOOR RHYTHM £7,082.96 AND C3 1.4i 8V 75HP CACHET £9,198.66. **0% APR OVER 3 YEARS AVAILABLE ON C3 RHYTHM (EXCLUDING STOP & START), ALL CACHET, EXCLUSIVE AND EXCLUSIVE PLUS MODELS AND NEW C4 SX AND VTR MODELS AND OVER 4 YEARS ON NEW C4 VTR+, EXCLUSIVE AND VTS MODELS. 5.9% APR TYPICAL FINANCE ON C1 CODE AND RHYTHM MODELS. FINANCE SUBJECT TO STATUS. WRITTEN QUOTATIONS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST FROM CITROËN FINANCIAL SERVICES, QUADRANT HOUSE, PRINCESS WAY, REDHILL, SURREY, RH1 1QA, UK. OVER 18S ONLY. A GUARANTEE MAY BE REQUIRED. ▲2 YEARS' UNLIMITED MILEAGE WARRANTY, NO-FEE CUSTOMER OPTION OF 3RD YEAR DEALER PROVIDED EXTENDED WARRANTY, UP TO A 3 YEAR TOTAL OF 60,000 MILES, ONLY ON NEW CARS SOURCED FROM CITROËN UK LTD. OFFERS, PRICES AND SPECIFICATION CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS FROM PARTICIPATING DEALERS FOR PRIVATE INDIVIDUALS AND QUALIFYING BUSINESS USERS. TERMS & CONDITIONS APPLY. PLEASE ASK US FOR DETAILS. COMPANIES WITH A CENTRALLY NEGOTIATED AGREEMENT WITH CITROËN UK LTD, NATIONAL FLEETS, MOTABILITY AND CONTRACT HIRE ARE EXCLUDED FROM THESE OFFERS. C4, XSARA PICASSO AND C4 PICASSO/GRAND C4 PICASSO OFFERS ARE MUTUALLY EXCLUSIVE. ALL MODELS SUBJECT TO STOCK AVAILABILITY. FINANCE OFFERS APPLY TO UK ONLY. ✦AIRDREAM. THIS SIGNATURE REPRESENTS OUR COMMITMENT TO MAKE AFFORDABLE CARS WITH LESS THAN 120G/KM CO_2 EMISSIONS, WITH MANUFACTURING QUALITY ISO14001 AND 95% MATERIAL RECOVERABILITY.

DrivingStats

- Skoda Superb 2.0TDI CR Elegance £24,460
- Range: £15,164-26,117
- Garage stats: 4.84m by 1.82m four-door saloon/hatch
- Powertrain: 1,968cc/170bhp four-cylinder turbodiesel driving front wheels through a six-speed automatic gearbox
- Performance: top speed 136mph and 0-62 in nine seconds
- How green?: road tax band-E (£170/yr), CO2 emissions/159g per km
- Official fuel figures: combined 42.2mpg
- Euro NCAP safety rating (0-5 stars): n/a
- Fuel tank: 60 litres/13.2 gallons
- Insurance group: 13
- Warranty: three years/60,000 miles
- Website: www.skoda.co.uk
- Rivals: Citroën C5, Ford Mondeo, Honda Accord, Mazda6, Toyota Avensis, Vauxhall Insignia and VW Passat

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hire operators will also be rubbing their hands at the prospect of this imposing and versatile big car appearing later on the used market.

Nice to see Skoda making proper Superb models again though – even in a recession

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SPIDER, 3.2 V6, gj57ffy, alloy wheels, anti-lock brakes, climate control, drivers airbag, electric windows, leather interior, metallic paint, passenger airbag, power steering, remote central locking, side airbags, tinted glass, traction control, trip computer, blue, 9000 miles, £20995, Thames Group Tunbridge Wells, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

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A4, 1.9 TDI SE (49.6 mpg £145 RFL grp 11 ins), gv55byt, alarm, immobiliser, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, colour coded interior, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, parking sensor, power steering, stability control, trip computer, abs, child locks, multiple airbags, colour coded body, front fog lamps, electric mirrors, electric windows, dual climate zones, cd player, alloy wheels, blue, 20000 miles, £9990, AR Cars, Kent, 01342 851122 (TRADE)

A4, TDI S LINE, gj55uuc, remote central locking, head restraints, power steering, abs, air bag, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, electric windows, electric mirrors, air conditioning, cd player, radio, immobiliser, 16'' alloys, grey, 61000 miles, £8999, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

LTT, QUATTRO, 2003, trim: leather engine size: 1800 transmission: manual no. of doors: 2, silver, 41000 miles, £13995, Palm Bay, Margate, 01843 298554 (TRADE)

CADILLAC

CTS, 3.6 SPORT luxury v6, 2005, light platinum with black leather, 22379 miles, £12950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

CHEVROLET

AVEO, 2008, abs air conditioning anti theft protection cd player central locking clock driver airbag driver seat height adjustment electric front windows passenger airbag power steering radio tiltable steering wheel wiper rear window, poly silver, 25 miles, £8145, FGBarnes, Maidstone, 01622 755531 (TRADE)

LACETTI, 2008, abs air conditioning alloy wheels anti theft protection cd player central locking clock driver airbag driver seat height adjustment electric front windows electric rear windows exterior mirror heated exterior mirrors electric passenger airbag power steering radio rear window heated revolution counter steering wheel with radio control tiltable steering wheel, black, 5700 miles, £6950, FGBarnes, Maidstone, 01622 755531 (TRADE)

MATIZ, 2007, abs air conditioning anti theft protection cd player central locking clock driver airbag electric front windows exterior mirrors passenger airbag power steering revolution counter, silver, 12100 miles, £4650, FGBarnes, Maidstone, 01622 755531 (TRADE)

MATIZ, SE 5dr, lx56wtp, blue, 600 miles, £5295, Automatically Ray Morris (Welling), Welling, 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)

CHRYSLER

300C, 5.7v8 auto estate, 2007, brilliant crystal met with dark and light slate gr, 10577 miles, £18950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

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C2, 1.1I Cool 3dr, 2008, 1.1i cool 3dr hatch sp eds, silver, 2000 miles, £6995, Wilmoths Ashford, Ashford, 01233 640100 (TRADE)

C2, 1.1I Cool 3dr, 2007, 1.1i cool 3dr hatch sp eds, black, 3500 miles, £6495, Wilmoths Ashford, Ashford, 01233 640100 (TRADE)

C3, 1.1I Cool 5dr, 2007, 1.1i cool 5dr hatch special edition, passion red, 7500 miles, £6495, Masters Citroen, Penge, 0208 659 0909 (TRADE)

FIAT

CINQUECENTO, m/1994, manual locking manual windows, red, 74, 000 miles, £was £695 now £595, Cheriton Motor House, Folkestone, 01303 275795 (TRADE)

COUPE, 2.0 16V, 1995, red, 72451 miles, £1995, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

GRANDE PUNTO, gk08fkw, air conditioning, alloy wheels, anti-lock brakes, drivers airbag, metallic paint, passenger airbag, power steering, remote central locking, side airbags, split/folding rear seats, trip computer, grey, 8000 miles, £8995, Thames Group Tunbridge Wells, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

PUNTO, ELX 16V, 2000, met green, 0 miles, £2495, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

FORD

FIESTA, 1.25 Zetec 5dr, ex56twd, abs, air bag, twin air bags, air conditioning, electric front windows, rear wash/wipe, electric mirrors, front fog lamps, central locking, immobiliser, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, head restraints, height adjustable seat, retractable headrests, rear headrests, folding rear seats, adjustable steering column, power steering, trip computer, quick-clear screen, metallic paintwork, automatic electric windows, cd player, radio, stereo, 15'' alloys, panther black met, 5520 miles, £5990, AutoPlanet Maidstone, Maidstone, 0845 871 5185 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.25 Studio 5dr (2005 - 1905), 29/07/2008, driver airbag power steering immobiliser, red, 1661 miles, £5800, Invicta Motors, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

FOCUS, GHIA (2005) 5 Dr Hatchback 2.0 Duratec 145 PS Stag, 01/09/2005, cd player abs driver airbag power steering immobiliser electric windows, grey, 34480 miles, £7000, Invicta Motors, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

FOCUS C-MAX, 26/09/2005, cd player abs alarm driver airbag power steering immobiliser electric windows, black, 53268 miles, £6500, Invicta Motors, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

GALAXY, 1.9 TD GHIA 5dr [130 PS], 28/04/2004, cd player abs driver airbag power steering navigation system electric windows, 54384 miles, £10000, Invicta Motors, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

KA, 1.3I STYLE [70], 2006, insurance group 3 abs body coloured bumpers central locking drivers airbag folding rear seats front electric windows immobiliser power steering radio/cd 1 owner service history, amethyst, 21000 miles, £4000, A 1 Carriages, Crayford, 01322 281525 (TRADE)

KA, STYLE CLIMATE, 2007, tonic, 0 miles, £5995, CB Motors, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (TRADE)

KA, 1.3 HATCHBACK 3Dr, 06/2006, manual windows manual locking pas radio/cd player, light blue, 15, 500 miles, £4895, Cheriton Motor House, Folkestone, 01303 275795 (TRADE)

MONDEO, 2.5T Titanium X 5dr (2007 -), 17/09/2007, cd player abs electric sunroof alarm power steering immobiliser cruise control auto climate control heated seats navigation system electric windows, silver, 14227 miles, £12999, Invicta Motors, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

MONDEO, 1.8 LX 5dr (2005 - 2007), 31/05/2007, cd player abs driver airbag power steering immobiliser electric windows, silver, 7000 miles, £15642, Invicta Motors, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

MUSTANG, 3.8 V6 COUPE, 1995, silver, 23579 miles, £5495, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

PUMA, 1.7 Black 3dr, 30/11/2000, cd player abs leather hood cover driver airbag power steering immobiliser electric windows, black, 60000 miles, £3500, Invicta Motors, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

TRANSIT, 350 100 bhp, wk56znd, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, dual passenger seat, power steering, abs, air bag, cd player, white, 20000 miles, £9745, Clearways Commercials, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

HONDA

ACCORD, 2.2 I-CTDI Sport with HFT, gd07aoe, locking wheel nuts, rolling code ecu engine immobiliser, central locking, rear electric windows, front seat sliding centre armrest, rear cupholders, external temperature gauge (built into odometer), remote keyless entry, ashtray front and rear, digital odometer (a/b trip), organ accelerator pedal, passenger vanity mirror with lid in sunshade, stereo cd tuner with rds, tweeters, rear 12v power outlet, front seat belt pre-tensioners, front map lights, externally visible vehicle identification number (vin), side screen integrated aerial, multi-function driver computer, front ventilated disc brakes, passenger seatback pocket, rear centre headrest and 3-point seatbelt, front foglights, alabaster silver metallic, 5980 miles, £13995.0000, Barretts Honda, Canterbury, 0845 3709769 (TRADE)

CIVIC, INSPIRE S 5dr, ex53 ukw, front fog lamps, remote central locking, remote alarm, rear wash/wipe, rear headrests, electric front windows, electric mirrors, cloth upholstery, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, air conditioning, cd player, twin air bags, abs, power steering, alloy wheels, green, 31000 miles, £4595, Kings Highway Garage Ltd, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

CR-V, 2.2 I-CTDI ES, dg08sro, cloth, black fabric, ashtray, one touch lane change indicator, trailer stability assist (tsa), driver and passenger illuminated vanity mirrors, body coloured front corner & rear parking sensors, front macpherson struts, height adjustable drivers seat, variable intermittent front wiper, 40:20:40 folding rear seats, driver and passenger armrest, flexible isofix childseat restraint mechanism, rear seat armrest with cup holders, intermittent rear wiper, rear seat belt monitor, auxiliary socket (mp3 connection), chrome surround for audio & heater controls, rear double wishbone, advanced dual pump 4wd system, double deck cargo shelf, rear cargo hook, front seat belt reminder, power folding door mirrors, tweeters, nighthawk black pearl, 13109 miles, £16995.0000, Barretts Honda, Canterbury, 0845 3709769 (TRADE)

CR-V, LS West 1, y538 lvw, front fog lamps, remote central locking, remote alarm, rear wash/wipe, rear headrests, height adjustable seat, electric windows, electric mirrors, electric sunroof, centre armrest, adjustable steering column, air conditioning, radio cassette, twin air bags, abs, power steering, alloy wheels, 4x4, green, 88500 miles, £2995, Kings Highway Garage Ltd, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

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HYUNDAI

ACCENT, Gsi 5dr, gk52ymp, immobiliser, cloth upholstery, head restraints, power steering, air bag, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, stereo, aluminium silver, 60000 miles, £2699, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

COUPE, SE 1975cc 3 door, 2006, cd player air conditioning alloy wheels central locking approved driver's airbag power steering history check electric windows, silver, 17200 miles, £7995, Pomphrey's of Sittingbourne, Sittingbourne, 01795 476222 (TRADE)

GETZ, CDX 5dr, cv08avc, blue, 3000 miles, £7995, Automatically Ray Morris (Welling), Welling, 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)

JAGUAR

SOVEREIGN, 4.0 Saloon 4d 3980cc auto, p 1997, electric windows, electric mirrors, remote central alarmed locking, air conditioning, radio cassette system, cruise control, cream interior leather, electric seats, memory seats, alloy wheels, front fog lamps, colour coded body, lots of service history. metallic silver/grey, miles, £3995, Westbrook Cars, Canterbury, 01227 710685 (TRADE)

X-TYPE, 2.0D SE Saloon 4d 1998cc, 04 2004, speed box, full jaguar service history, cd/radio, ivory leather trim, electric windows, central locking, power assisted steering, cruise control, electric mirrors, air conditioning, front and rear heated screens, airbags, abs, front fog lamps, alloys, immaculate condition, metallic pacific blue, miles, £12995, Westbrook Cars, Canterbury, 01227 710685 (TRADE)

JEEP

GRAND CHEROKEE, 1997, green, 180000 miles, £2995, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

KIA

CARENS, 2.0 CRDI SR [7 Seat] Diesel, 2008, insurance group 10 abs air conditioning alarm alloy wheels body coloured bumpers drivers airbag electricdoor mirrors folding rear seats front electric windows front fog lights heated door mirrors height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser passenger airbag power steering radio/cd roof rails side airbags steering wheel rake adjustment, grey, 14 miles, £10995, Masters Bromley Kia, Beckenham, 0208 662 6133 (TRADE)

PICANTO, 1.1 Chill, 2008, insurance group 3 delivery mileage central locking front electric windows abs air conditioning power steering drivers airbag passenger airbag body coloured bumper folding rear seats radio/cd steering wheel rake adjustment, metallic black, miles, £6995, Masters Bromley Kia, Beckenham, 0208 662 6133 (TRADE)

RIO, Chill Diesel, 2008, delivery miles only air conditioning front electric windows abs power steering radio/cd delivery mileage graphite cloth interior, tropical red, £8795, Masters Bromley Kia, Beckenham, 0208 662 6133 (TRADE)

LAND ROVER

DEFENDER, 90 2.4d County, gk08vpx, cloth, county grey, alloy wheels, sun hatch glass tilt/remove, body coloured roof, body coloured wheelarch eyebrows, coil spring suspension, convenience pack, deep section fully boxed chassis frame, dual range transmission, front and rear beam axle, headlamp levelling, heated rear window/wash/wipe, heavy-duty suspension, lockable front centre differential, passive engine immobilisation, permanent four-wheel drive, power-assisted steering, rear mudflaps, single cd player, tinted glass, volumetric and perimetric alarm, zermatt silver, 4503 miles, £16995.0000, Barretts Land Rover (Canterbury), Canterbury, 0845 3709764 (TRADE)

DISCOVERY, TD5 GS Manual, bj52gnk, traction control, climate control, remote alarm, remote central locking, adjustable steering column, power steering, abs, headlamp jetwash, front fog lamps, rear wash/wipe, roof rails, tow pack, electric mirrors, electric windows, cd player, alloy wheels, 4x4, top part exchange prices given for defenders against any discovery. road tax is £210 per year for this vehicle, silvergold metallic, 77000 miles, £7495, Diesel Centre, Staplehurst, 01580 890333 (TRADE)

FREELANDER, 1998, met green with beige, 91644 miles, £3250, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

LEXUS

IS, 200 SE, gf51wrr, alarm, immobiliser, remote central locking, alcantara leather, half leather, electric seats, heated seats, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, power steering, stability control, abs, multiple airbags, auto lighting, colour coded body, front fog lamps, electric mirrors, electric windows, climate control, multi-disc cd player, electric sunroof, child locks, alloy wheels, red, 52000 miles, £5990, AR Cars, Kent, 01342 851122 (TRADE)

MAZDA

323, GT 5dr, 774461, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, head restraints, power steering, air bag, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, electric windows, air conditioning, cd player, stereo, 15'' alloys, aluminium silver, 87000 miles, £1999, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

MAZDA3, 3 Ts 5dr, cy56hdl, anti-theft system, central locking, immobiliser, locking wheel nuts, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, head restraints, height adjustable seat, lumbar support, folding rear seats, rear headrests, rear wash/wipe, metallic paintwork, abs, multiple airbags, power steering, electric front windows, electric mirrors, electric windows, air conditioning, cd player, 15'' alloys, aluminium silver, 13000 miles, £7995, Automatically Ray Morris (Welling), Welling, 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)

MAZDA3, 3 Ts 5dr, ld06yvb, anti-theft system, central locking, immobiliser, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, head restraints, folding rear seats, rear headrests, power steering, abs, multiple airbags, metallic paintwork, rear spoiler, rear wash/wipe, electric front windows, air conditioning, cd player, 15'' alloys, blue, 15000 miles, £7495, Automatically Ray Morris (Welling), Welling, 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)

MX-5, I 1.8 Man, 678461, immobiliser, cloth upholstery, head restraints, power steering, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, electric windows, locking wheel nuts, centre armrest, twin air bags, cd player, stereo, 14'' alloys, racing green, 68000 miles, £3999, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

MERCEDES-BENZ

A CLASS, A150 Classic SE Lwb 5dr, ck56nsz, anti-theft system, central locking, immobiliser, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, folding rear seats, metallic paintwork, abs, multiple airbags, power steering, electric front windows, air con, cd player, blue, 2000 miles, £10995, Automatically Ray Morris (Welling), Welling, 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)

NISSAN

350Z, 3.5 V6 GT Pack, gf08ztz, leather, grey, 18'' rays forged alloy wheels, curtain airbags, drilled aluminium pedals, driver's and passengers airbag, dual exhaust pipes, dvd satellite navigation, electric leather interior, rear park system, 6 cd autochanger, bose audio system, brembo brakes, climate control air conditioning, cruise control, electric front seats, electronic stability program (esp), front side airbags, headlamp washers, heated front seats, passenger airbag, trip computer, xenon headlamps, universal silver, 1500 miles, £21994.0000, Baileys Nissan, Canterbury, 01227 766777 (TRADE)

ALMERA, S 5dr Auto, ef04 gfv, rear wash/wipe, rear headrests, remote central locking, remote alarm, electric front windows, height adjustable seat, cloth upholstery, adjustable steering column, air conditioning, cd player, radio, abs, twin air bags, power steering, blue/silver, 46000 miles, £2995, Kings Highway Garage Ltd, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

MICRA, 1.2 16V 80PS ACENTA, gd08agy, cloth, carbon, air-conditioning, anti-lock braking system (abs), body coloured bumpers, body coloured door handles, body coloured door mirrors, body coloured roof spoiler, brake assist, central door locking, drive computer, driver's and passengers airbag, electric brake distribution (ebd), electric front windows, engine immobiliser, friendly lighting system, headlamp levelling, keyless entry with superlocking, power assisted steering (pas), single cd player, tinted front headlamp covers, emotion red, 20 miles, £6995.0000, Baileys Nissan, Canterbury, 01227 766777 (TRADE)

PEUGEOT

206, 1.4 Zest 2 3dr [AC], 125923127, abs, air bag, twin air bags, air conditioning, electric front windows, cd player, rear wash/wipe, front fog lamps, aluminium, 20605 miles, £4999, AutoPlanet Maidstone, Maidstone, 0845 871 5185 (TRADE)

307, Rapier 5dr, ak52 vlv, rear wash/wipe, rear headrests, remote central locking, remote alarm, electric front windows, electric mirrors, cloth upholstery, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, air conditioning, abs, power steering, cd player, radio, twin air bags, curtain airbags, alloy wheels, gold, 54600 miles, £3995, Kings Highway Garage Ltd, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

RENAULT

CLIO, 1.2 16v Expression (a/c) Hatchback 5d 1149cc QS5, gf02btz, 1 owner, abs braking system, 45 mpg, front & side airbags, electric windows & mirrors, sunroof, remote locking, immobilizer, group 3 insurance, height adjustable driver's seat, stalk control hifi, height adjustable steering wheel, integrated rear headrets, passenger airbag switch-off facility, (cost new £8895 save £4910 on price when new), pacific blue, 45500 miles, £3995, E-SSURED Cars UK, Broadstairs, 0845 6447751 (TRADE)

LAGUNA, 1.9 dCi 130 Expression Navigation 5dr, 126049127, abs, air bag, twin air bags, side air bags, alarm, cruise control, electric front windows, electric windows, cd player, satellite navigation, rear wash/wipe, electric mirrors, front fog lamps, alloy wheels, blue met, 42954 miles, £5499, AutoPlanet Maidstone, Maidstone, 0845 871 5185 (TRADE)

MEGANE 1.4 MANUAL, 2004 (04), 04 (04) renault megane 1.4 authentique, 5 door hatchback, immaculate metallic grey coachwork with black fleck sports trim, only 34000 miles, full m/d s/history, only 1 former keeper, air conditioning/climate control, pas, ew, central locking, alarm immobilizer, original cd hi-fi with steering wheel control, many air bags etc. low tax and ins group, ideal first car. beautiful condition £4695, metallic grey, £4695, Riviera Car Sales, Folkestone, 01303 244244 (TRADE)

MEGANE, SPORT 225, 2005, trim: leather engine size: 2000 transmission: manual no. of doors: 3, extreme orange, 20400 miles, £11995, Palm Bay, Margate, 01843 298554 (TRADE)

ROVER

200, 216 CABRIOLET, 1997, grey, 0 miles, £1295, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

400, 416 iS, 2000, air conditioning alarm alloy wheels body coloured bumpers drivers airbag trip computer 2 owners history, tahiti blue, 50000 miles, £1689, A 1 Carriages, Crayford, 01322 281525 (TRADE)

SAAB

9-3, LINEAR TID 1.9, oct 2004 gf54wdc, two previous keepers, power steering, remote central locking, air conditioning, electric windows, 6 speed gearbox, full service history, radio/cd player, twin & side airbags, abs brakes, engine immobiliser, car alarm, on-board computer, tinted glass, adj. steering column, seat height adjuster, alloy wheels. silver metallic, 32, 000 miles, £9, 495, Hollis Motors, Dover, 01304 206710 (TRADE)

SEAT

IBIZA, FR TDI 1.9 130PS 3dr, sept 2007 gk57xtd, one previous keeper, power steering, remote central locking, climate control, electric windows, 6 speed gearbox, full seat service history, radio/cd player, twin airbags, abs brakes, engine immobiliser, factory car alarm, on-board computer, electricdoor mirrors, front fog lamps, tinted glass, rear wash/wipe, adj. steering column, seat height adjuster, sports seats, split rear seats, alloy wheels. emocion red, demo miles miles, £12, 495, Hollis Motors, Dover, 01304 206710 (TRADE)

TOLEDO 1.9 TURBO DIESEL, 2002 (02), 02 (02) seat toledo 1.9 se turbo diesel tdi, 4 door, stunning metallic blue with black fleck cloth trim, service history, 71000 miles, traction control, pas, ew, em, air con, many air bags, alloy wheels, very nice condition bargain at £3395, metallic blue, £3395, Riviera Car Sales, Folkestone, 01303 244244 (TRADE)

VAUXHALL

ASTRA, Club 1.6 5dr (42.8 mpg £145 RFL Ins grp 6), ek55tvc, immobiliser, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, colour coded interior, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, power steering, stability control, abs, child locks, multiple airbags, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, rear spoiler, electric front windows, electric mirrors, air conditioning, cd player, steering wheel audio controls, alloy wheels, metallic black, 43000 miles, £4990, AR Cars, Kent, 01342 851122 (TRADE)

CORSA, Design 16v 5dr, 4847314, anti-theft system, central locking, immobiliser, cloth upholstery, folding rear seats, height adjustable seat, head restraints, colour coded body, abs, multiple airbags, power steering, electric front windows, air conditioning, cd player, aluminium silver, 24000 miles, £6495, Automatically Ray Morris (Welling), Welling, 0208 303 4030 (TRADE)

VOLVO

C70, C70 T GT, lg53yod, remote central locking, full leather, head restraints, power steering, abs, multiple airbags, colour coded body, front fog lamps, metallic paintwork, electric windows, electric mirrors, power hood, air conditioning, cd player, stereo, 17'' alloys, grey, 57000 miles, £6999, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

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Making profit from e-waste

By **TONY PATEY**
tony.patey@kosmedia.co.uk

OBSOLETE computers and other IT equipment – what's called e-waste – can often end up in less developed countries for dismantling or thrown into UK landfill.

Apart from environmental and ethical factors, there are also issues of identity theft, fraud and obligations under the Data Protection Act.

All serious considerations – but for one Canterbury-based firm they have proved a recession-proofed opportunity.

Bioteknik, which has been going for nearly 20 years, also had a boost with UK and EC laws introduced in 2007 designed to prevent millions of tonnes of e-waste going to landfill sites.

Managing director Dr Steve Buckwell said: "We've been pioneers in recycling and we've run this operation in tandem with a healthy re-selling business. However, with the sharp increase in commodity prices, reselling of viable units is giving way to actual scrap metal recovery and we see this as being our future profit area.

RECYCLING PIONEERS: Chris Coe, left, and Dr Steve Buckwell of Bioteknik

"Exporting e-waste to less developed countries has led to bad publicity, with stories of primitive disassembly with open-air burning and acid baths resulting in pollution and health hazards. Often the task is performed by children.

"Why landfill or ship this scrap to the other side of the world? It's not exactly ethical or environmental. We can mine elements from scrap which would otherwise have to be mined from the earth. Our methods meet strict health and safety laws. We are handling what is classed as hazardous waste."

But e-waste business is not just picking out the precious metals – there's valuable data on board as well. Said Dr Buckwell: "Most companies have come to realise that their decommissioned hardware is a liability.

"Data destruction is a big priority for them, but collection, record-taking, storage and disassembly is time-consuming and expensive. I think it would be fair to say that we now have all that off to a fine art."

Dr Buckwell is an organic chemist who started the firm from his home in Canterbury as an industrial science service, and one of his first big breaks was landing a contract as forensics scientists on the first Channel Tunnel fire in 1996.

He and business development manager Chris Coe had identified an opportunity in the mid-1990s for recovery, resale and recycling of computer hardware.

Mr Coe said: "Practically all businesses have computers. If they are doing well they upgrade hardware regularly and it's a tax write down.

"Software companies drive the need for better and faster hardware both in the home and in businesses. If companies go broke, their computers need disposing of as items for general clearance. Either way, we recover unwanted hardware. We recover computer parts which can be sold on.

"Also scrap metal prices are on the increase, with gold particularly being seen as a safe haven in times of uncertainty. With emerging economies such as China and India, there will be continuing demand for metals such as copper and aluminum."

Bioteknik employs 10 staff and has a turnover in excess of £250,000. It plans to treble this over the next two years.

ONE of Kent's leading digital agencies, Red Bullet, has relocated to Faversham's Brogdale Farm, home of the National Fruit Collection.

Red Bullet employs 13 people and has moved from Rainham to larger offices in the old dairy at Brogdale. Andy Shield, creative director, said: "We needed to expand our operation and wanted a more spacious office. We were also attracted by the beautiful setting."

Red Bullet works with 250 clients ranging from local firms to Marriott Hotels, Gray-Nicolls, Kent County Council and the NHS.

Sally Roger, marketing manager at Brogdale, said: "We now have 17 businesses based here and bringing jobs to the area.

"We have undergone an extensive facelift and £1 million has been invested to provide retail and office space."

Stay in control with good marketing, say the experts

ASHFORD-based marketing company Chimaera has lived up to its name by showing it has teeth and making waves as it celebrates its second anniversary.

Chimaera – they are fish related to the sharks and rays and sometimes called the ghost sharks – now has a staff of four and managing director Neil D'Silva says he is positive about the future despite the economic downturn. He said: "While there are uncertainties with regards to the economy over the coming months, I believe that, despite what many business owners think, they still have control over their future.

"Good marketing is often critical to regaining control and we are committed to helping businesses of all sizes."

He said to get the best out of marketing measure the response you get, don't waste money on ineffective marketing, look at new avenues to promote your business, and market your website better to get more from it.

TEAM CHIMAERA: Ellen Dobbs, John Tart, Katherine Hiseman and Neil D'Silva

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'Running a pub is retail – 24/7'

PUMP ACTION: Tony Patey serves up a pint, watched by publican David Little

Want to run a pub? Been made redundant and thinking of becoming a tenant publican? Business Editor **Tony Patey**, who used to run a pub in Lincolnshire, was recently asked by Faversham's Shepherd Neame to pool some thoughts with David Little, who runs the brewery's The Anchor in Faversham. Sheps wants to use the information for potential publicans. Here is Tony's report:

JOHN Fothergill became the most famous publican in Britain before World War Two when he wrote a little book which became a best-seller.

Called An Innkeeper's Diary, it was all about his time at the now famous Spread Eagle Hotel in Thame, Oxfordshire, in the 1920s – and it reveals how he was in the forefront in setting high modern hotel standards.

It wasn't easy. In fact, he initially got a lot of hostility from the regulars and local farmers. But his thoughts are universal and still relevant today for anyone contemplating becoming a publican. Here's an excerpt:

"Requirements for keeping a good inn:

- 14-16 hours a day and few, even half-days, off.
- Some capital with which to have good food ready and to waste.
- A mind for the tiniest details.
- An all-round outlook.
- An ability to formulate a policy and courage to carry it out.
- To have had first a good time in life oneself.
- A natural, not enforced, love of the job. Wherever an inn fails, in England or elsewhere, it will be, I think, for the lack of one or more of the requirements."

Anyone who has run a pub will wholeheartedly agree.

The most important ones, I think, are having some ready capital in your back pocket, formulating the right policy, and having a mind for the tiniest details.

If you're not a natural people person, then don't even think about it in the first place.

Fothergill's hint about tiniest details will resonate with every publican. On my first day I found in the cellar a long piece of metal with two bolts stuck in it and nearly threw it out; it was my darts team's oche – I would have been lynched.

I recently spent a day with David Little, an experienced licensee, who runs The Anchor, a lovely old pub just off Faversham Creek, which has just been named as one of the top 25 pubs in the UK in the Good Beer Guide 2009.

He's a tenant of Shepherd Neame and with the economic downturn there is a strong business model case to be made for running a tenanted pub rather than buying a lease or freehold, because the latter two could easily fall in value as well as rise.

Sheps is on the lookout for suitable potential tenants and it asked David and me to produce some 'on the job' advice for would-be publicans.

Any publican would agree with David when he says a prospective publican must remember that today the job is "retail, 24/7" – your regulars will, of course, be your bedrock, but you have to attract a steady stream of other customers.

Here are some of David's thoughts: "It is a retail business at the end of the day. We're in the 21st century and the days are long gone where the publican drives round in a Jaguar, plays golf every day and drinks as much beer as he sells, sitting in front of the bar.

"You have to be multi-skilled. I come from a freehouse background and we could, in a way, make it up as we went along. But coming into the Shepherd Neame tenancy scheme I found retraining was vital.

"You need working capital, but initially it is a very inexpensive way to get into a business. For example, if you wanted a freehouse something like [The Anchor] would be £1 million.

"You have to do a SWOT – strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats – analysis first. Then it's hearts and minds in the first six months, you've got to win over your customers.

"Customers make the pub, staff control it and you've got to be a captain of the ship. You've got to make sure they understand you're fair, firm and reasonable."

Tied pub and property director George Barnes, who has been at Sheps since 1978, said: "We are coming to a point where tenancies are becoming a lot more attractive than leases – and it's a matter of record that lease values are dropping like stones.

"The qualities I look for in a licensee are marketing skills and the ability to be proactive, because the days of just opening the doors and people walking in are gone.

"Research is essential before you go into a pub. If you're looking at a number of pubs, wait until you walk into one that feels right. Don't force yourself into something just because it's available."

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Movers & Shakers

TWO Thanet residents have received business awards during a ceremony at Canterbury Christ Church University's Hall Place Enterprise Centre.

Sue Hall, 54, of Westover Road, Broadstairs, and Helen Hughes, 43, of Esmonde Drive, Manston, successfully completed a Higher Education Certificate in European Business.

SUE HALL

HELEN HUGHES

The programme was run by the university's Centre for Enterprise and Business Development and was designed to give the public the opportunity to gain an in-depth knowledge of European business, management and organisational behaviour, finance and statistics, a foreign language and IT skills.

Ms Hall, who studied on the part-time programme, owns a business called Nanny's Attic, in Ramsgate High Street, said: "The course built on my skills and gave me a new ideas and perspectives that I can apply to my own business. I am quite a shy person but the course brought me out of myself and helped me to mix with other people."

Ms Hughes, a complementary therapist who studied on the full-time programme, said: "The course was a challenge but gave me a real insight into the issues involved with running a business."

REGIONAL law firm Cripps Harries Hall LLP has expanded its family team by appointing Sophie Barrett who has joined from city law firm Manches.

She gained a distinction in her Diploma in Law at Oxford Brookes University and went on to train with Mayfair firm Gordon Dadds before joining matrimonial firm Alexiou Fisher Philipps in central London where she remained until 2005.

Jack Parkinson of HR GO presents the shirts to John Osmant, head coach of Cranbrook Rugby Club under-18s

ASHFORD-based recruitment group HR GO is sponsoring Cranbrook Rugby Club's under-18s team for this season.

And, for his opening kick, chairman Jack Parkinson presented 22 shirts to the head coach.

The team were Kent champions two years ago and recently won a Kent sevens championship.

The shirts, which are dated and can only be worn by this team, are part of the sponsorship deal with HR GO and other motivational benefits are planned during the year.

Said Mr Parkinson: "Striving for success in business is the same as striving for success in rugby."

A SPECIALIST accountant, Graeme Alston, right, has been appointed to HSBC Corporate Banking's south-eastern team as relationship manager.

It strengthens the bank's 16-strong team of corporate finance experts and its strategic capabilities.

He joins HSBC from KPMG's corporate finance team where he has spent the last eight years working across a number of the region's most high-profile deals.

Recently he was involved in the sale of Link Holdings (Horsham), Forum Bioscience Holdings (Redhill) and the acquisition of PIMS Group by Inflexion.

He also instigated and coordinated the popular First Thursday drinks event, which brings together corporate professionals in Surrey, Sussex and Kent in an informal networking environment.

Mike Hodges, head of corporate banking for the South East, which covers Kent, said: "I am delighted that we have attracted someone as highly respected in the professional community as Graeme."

Outside work, Mr Alston has two young children and a passion for tennis. He represented Scotland as a junior, and more recently has won the World Corporate Tennis Championships.

LAW firm Thomson Snell & Passmore has announced the appointment of James Partridge, right, as the firm's new senior partner, following the retirement of Michael Sugden who held the post for four years.

Mr Partridge has been with the firm – which has 38 partners and over 200 staff based at offices in Tunbridge Wells and the Thames Gateway – since 1986 and has led the corporate and commercial department since 2000.

He is recognised as a leader in the field of corporate finance by the Chambers independent guide to the legal profession.

He specialises in mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures and corporate structures and has particular knowledge of the road construction, food production, property and professional services sectors.

A CHARITY shop manager in Tonbridge has received an employer excellence award for providing an outstanding service.

Karen Murphy received her award at the Tonbridge Shelter charity shop, where she has worked as an assistant manager since November 2006.

She was recognised for outstanding employment opportunities and support of people with disabilities and was nominated by Peter Martin, an employment advisor from Kent Supported Employment, after seeing how well she helped the service users he had asked her to take on as volunteers.

John Wilson, right, with Paul Southgate at the St Lawrence Ground, Canterbury

JOHN Wilson was aged just 16 when he applied for a job with the East Kent Road Car Company and became a junior traffic clerk.

Now, half a century later, 66-year-old Mr Wilson, from Upstreet, has just retired.

His colleagues at Stagecoach, the company that took over East Kent in 1993, arranged a surprise lunch and presentation to commemorate his impeccable employment record.

More than 30 friends and former colleagues attended from across the UK, including one from South Africa.

As he has been a lifelong Kent County Cricket supporter, the celebration was held at the Chiesman Pavilion, Kent County Cricket Ground.

Paul Southgate, regional managing director for Stagecoach in Kent, presented Mr Wilson with the original employer's engagement form in a frame which confirmed that he started employment with a wage of £3 and 5 shillings (£3.25) per week, then a cricket bat signed by the county squad.

He said: "I feel all my friends and colleagues from the bus industry are my family.

"I will now be joining many of my retired friends who meet on a regular basis."

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Another success for RAP

One of RAP's recent projects which once again was completed successfully to the client's satisfaction was the project for AEG Worldwide to refurbish their America Street office. This was RAP's second project for AEG. The previous project was the refurbishment of the O2 Pavilion Café where RAP turned the café into office space to accommodate 60 staff and relocated them from the Canary Wharf to their new office.

The America Street project consisted of:

- An open plan area for 40 personnel with a feature wall
- Coat cupboard with two full height double door sets in American Walnut doors and bronzed handles
- Post room with bespoke shelving system
- Tea point/break out area for staff with wood effect flooring, high gloss kitchen units with integral white goods
- Audio/Visual installation

Additionally four private offices and a conference room were situated around the perimeter of the floor along with two hot desk positions. Polar glass and doors were fitted to full height. Furthermore a bespoke elliptical ceiling raft made of stretched rubber membrane was fitted into the board room along with a full audio visual installation. Finally the reception area gained a ceramic tiled floor and wall along with a bespoke American Walnut reception desk.

RAP have an exclusive interactive tour of this refurbishment on their website. To visit it goto www.rapofficecontracts.com and click on the "New Interactive Tour" icon.

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Scaffold Inspection	1 Day	8th Jan	£115
First Aid At Work	4 Days	15th Jan	£210
Manual Handling	½ day	22nd Jan	£70
NEBOSH General Certificate (NGC2)	6 Days	28th Jan	£675
CITB Site Safety for Shopfitters	3 Days	30th Jan	£400
NEBOSH General Certificate (NGC1)	5 Days	2nd Feb	£675

Our offices will close on Tuesday 23rd Dec & will re-open on Monday 29th Dec 2008.
Close on Wednesday 31st Dec and re-open on Monday 5th Jan 2009.
May we take this opportunity to thank you for your business throughout 2008 and wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year
For further details on these and other courses available or information about our extensive range of Health and Safety Services, please contact our Office Manager, Vi Cowie on 01732 887322 or email vi@safetycouk.com

Sports review 2008

Sports editor GLENN PEARSON highlights another busy year in which Olympic medals and a Wembley final hit the Kent on Sunday sporting headlines

JANUARY

INJURY WOES: Dani Masters

IT WAS a difficult year for Kent golfer Dani Masters who suffered an injury that kept her out for the majority of the campaign, and 2008 didn't start as she would have imagined.

The Maidstone golfer revealed how she saved a team-mate's life just days before having to take her place for England in the Women's World Cup of Golf.

While at a pro-am tournament in Spain, Masters walked into her hotel room to find team-mate Kirsty Taylor lying on the floor seconds from death. Quick-thinking Masters used basic first aid to help save her life.

She said: "I put her in the recovery position and opened her airway because she had swallowed her tongue – it was the scariest thing I have ever seen in my life." Masters went on to take Taylor's place at the World Cup in South Africa.

FORMER Tunbridge Wells schoolboy Martin Corry announced his decision to quit international rugby, two months after steering England to the World Cup final.

Corry won his 64th cap against South Africa in the final defeat but made his decision in January ahead of the Six Nations Championship. The former England captain told Kent on Sunday it was a "hugely difficult" decision but one he had to take in order to prolong his domestic rugby career with the Leicester Tigers.

END OF AN ERA: Martin Corry

He said: "I'm not going to be around for the next World Cup, England are going through a transition and I told my family I wasn't going to tour again. I have had some tremendous highs and I have had some lows as well, but even with the lows it has been fantastic."

FEBRUARY

PREMIER League boss Richard Scudamore announced ambitious plans to take the English game abroad – much to the chagrin of football supporters across the country.

The Football Association's vice-chairman and Kent FA chairman, Barry Bright, also raised concerns about the '39th game abroad' plans, claiming it could have an adverse impact on supporters and the England team.

The Premier League had asked for clubs in England's top division to examine a proposal of playing 10 competitive league games across the world from January 2011, the results of which would count as part of the league.

Bright said: "I know people that are proud that they have been to every game for many years watching their club and many of them have travelled abroad, spending lots of money watching their clubs in European competitions. I worry for them and I suspect they won't be amused."

TEEN Gillingham sensation Luke Freeman finally completed his dream move to Premiership giants Arsenal in February.

HOT PROPERTY: Luke Freeman

The then 15-year-old, who had been at the Gills' centre of excellence for five years, signed a deal with the Gunners after impressing for Mark Stimson's first team. He impressed Arsenal boss Arsene Wenger after coming on as a substitute in Gillingham's FA Cup defeat to Barnet, where he became the youngest player to feature in the FA Cup.

Wenger told Kent on Sunday: "I was told there was a young player who was very gifted who plays at Gillingham. I sent a scout I trust to watch him. He came on, played a little and we managed to see a bit of him and then decided to go for him."

MARCH

CONTROVERSY: Justin Kemp

KENT'S winter signings found themselves in hot water after appearing in the rebel Twenty20 tournament, the Indian Cricket League.

The pair signed up for the tournament not knowing its consequences to their county cricket careers as the sport's chiefs came under intense pressure from the Board of Control for Cricket in India to ban players involved in the tournament.

Kent's chief executive Paul Millman was awaiting news from the England and Wales Cricket Board on how the situation would develop, but could not have anticipated how long and drawn out the affair became for the county.

He said: "There is a lot in the newspapers about the dispute between the Indian Premier League and the Indian Cricket League that is having a knock-on effect around the world. We are in the same position as many other counties and will await developments."

GILLINGHAM chairman Paul Scally vowed to beat the boo boys after he came under fire from the club's supporters.

As the Gills careered towards relegation from League One, Scally was targeted by fans who threw rocks at his car following a disappointing 3-0 home defeat to Crewe Alexandra. The Gillingham chairman told KoS that there had been times he considered walking away from Priestfield.

"I won't be bullied by anyone," he said. "I have got a job to do here and until it is done or someone else comes in who can do it better, I will be here. If somebody walked in tomorrow and they could do it better, I would go."

APRIL

ROB Key was named in an England Performance Squad which has been the clearest indication yet he is close to the full England side.

The Kent captain was part of a 26-man squad that included Test stars Kevin Pietersen, Andrew Flintoff and Steve Harmison.

ENGLAND CALL: Rob Key

Key was philosophical about his inclusion, admitting he needs to be consistent for Kent if he is to stand any hope of being part of the Test and one-day set-up.

"It is nice to have a good indication that I am in the selectors' thoughts but I have been in the squad before and it is not like playing for England," he said. "What it does is gives you a jolt to say that you are not that far away.

"If I got another chance I would try and prepare for it the same way as I would for Kent and not make too big a deal of it. I would just understand how big an opportunity it is and give it my best, rather than die waiting."

SNOW GO: Wintry conditions force British Superbikes at Brands Hatch to be postponed

THE opening round of the British Superbike Championship was postponed after three inches of snow fell in Kent.

With Sheppey's Shane Byrne on pole position, the Kent circuit was forced to abandon the opening meeting of the championship, which according to owner Jonathan Palmer, cost Brands Hatch up to £250,000.

He said: "There was nothing we could do but cancel the event for the first time since we have been in charge at Brands. It was devastating for us and I believe we have lost £250,000 for abandoning the meeting." The rescheduled meeting was held in May.

MAY

AFTER three months of waiting, South African all-rounder Justin Kemp was finally given clearance by the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) to play for Kent.

Kemp had his application to play for the county rejected twice as the ECB were forced to deny him a place in county cricket because of his involvement in the rebel Indian Cricket League (ICL).

However, after waiting to hear his fate and missing the start of Kent's season in the process, Kemp had to attend an all-day hearing at the Oval before learning he was able to take his place in Rob Key's Kent side.

He said: "I am relieved everything has been sorted. If I'd known what I know now, I wouldn't have signed the contract with the ICL. You do not quite understand how much you love this game until there is the threat of it being taken away from you."

UNDOUBTEDLY the story of the year was Ebbsfleet United's triumph in the FA Trophy at Wembley Stadium (see main pic). Liam Daish's side took 25,000 Kent fans to the new Wembley where the Fleet created history in becoming the first club from the county to lift the coveted trophy. Despite missing a first half penalty through Chris McPhee, the young midfielder atoned for his error with the winner just before the break as Fleet ran out 1-0 victors against Torquay United.

A delighted Daish hoped the trophy win would put his side on the Kent football map.

He said: "Hopefully there is going to be a kick on and they are going to want to come back for more and get season tickets. It would be disappointing if the first game of the season was at home and they will have all gone.

"It would be nice to get up to the 2,000 mark because if you look at the teams looking to get into the Football League, their gates help them get there."

JUNE

KENT racer Mike Conway did his hopes of getting a Formula One seat no harm after securing his first GP2 championship win on the streets of Monaco.

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DELIGHT: Ebbsfleet celebrate winning the FA Trophy in front of 25,000 travelling Fleet fans

The Sevenoaks rider missed out on the double after an accident in race one, but he recorded a lights-to-flag finish in the second, a staggering 18 seconds ahead of his nearest challenger Ho Ping-Tung.

The first win of his GP2 career eclipsed his best result of second at Silverstone in the previous season.

Conway said: "I just can say that I'm really happy. I think the result will boost my confidence for the rest of the season."

WICKET HAUL: Martin Saggers

MARTIN Saggers came within a whisker of claiming all 10 wickets of a second XI County Championship match at Beckenham, before the game was abandoned to allow the first team to use the ground for their rearranged Friends Provident Trophy quarter-final with Somerset.

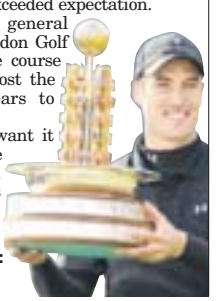
The Kent seamer was playing against Yorkshire at Beckenham where he recorded figures of 9-62. He was preparing to come back out and claim his 10th wicket after lunch, but Kent staff made a decision to abandon the game to allow the first-team to play their FPT game with the Somerset Sabres. Kent were due to play the previous day at St Lawrence, but flash floods left standing water on the wicket.

Saggers told KoS: "I guess it was bittersweet really. I am there to get wickets and I needed to get the overs under my belt but I never dreamt this morning that I would take all nine wickets."

JULY

ROSS Fisher became the first golfer to claim the trophy at the very first European Open event at the London Golf Club.

The Ash course, near Brands Hatch, successfully hosted the European Open with the condition of the Heritage Course being universally praised by players, while crowds at the start of the competition exceeded expectation.



EUROPEAN CHAMP: Ross Fisher

Heath Harvey, general manager at the London Golf Club, is hopeful the course will be in line to host the Tour for many years to come.

He said: "We do want it back. Hopefully we put on a good enough show this year so that it happens. We won't be sitting around slapping ourselves on the back. There's a lot of things to do raise the standard given a bit more time."

KENT golfers Tom Sherreard and Peter Appleyard both had memorable starts as they briefly led at The Open at Royal Birkdale.

OPEN HERO: Tom Sherreard

Appleyard, from Sevenoaks, started well but failed to make the cut, while Maidstone's Sherreard put in a stunning performance to beat some of golf's most illustrious names such as Vijay Singh, Justin Rose and Ernie Els.

The 20-year-old finished a creditable tied 19th as he finished 14-over-par. On the opening day he briefly held the lead at Royal Birkdale and eventually made the cut after shooting the seventh best score in the tournament.

He said: "My main aim at the start of the week was to challenge for the silver medal and to make the cut. I never thought I would come away with a top 20 finish in The Open."

AUGUST

FINALS DAY: Kent Spitfires lose out in the Twenty20 final against Middlesex Crusaders

KENT'S bid to make history by being the first county to defend their Twenty20 title came agonisingly short as they were beaten on the final ball at a packed Rose Bowl.

Rob Key's side made it through to finals day for the second year in succession – which was played at the end of July – and were on top form in the first semi-final as they dispatched the Essex Eagles with ease.

The Kent Spitfires made a good fist of chasing down the highest-ever finals total, by the Middlesex Crusaders, but they lost by three runs.

In August, Kent made it two defeats in domestic finals as they lost to the Essex Eagles at Lord's. Kent's batsmen failed to fire as they scored a below-par 214 which the Eagles chased down with seven balls to spare, to win by five wickets.

THE Beijing Olympics proved the icing on the cake for Kent's Jamie Staff. The double world champion, from Ashford, was part of the Great Britain trio to claim gold in the Team Sprint at the Laoshan Velodrome.

OLYMPIANS: Jamie Staff and Lisa Dobriskey

A delighted Staff said: "For me, any medal would have been nice, but I would not have been content unless it was the gold. We as a team were the best in the world in our own right."

Fellow Ashford athlete, Lisa Dobriskey, who wrote a daily blog and diary for Kent on Sunday from Beijing, fell agonisingly short of a medal in her first Olympics as she finished fourth in the 1500 metre final.

She said: "Finishing fourth is so close to getting a medal. I know if I had pushed or changed my tactics I would probably have got there."

SEPTEMBER

CHARLOTTE Edwards, the Kent and England cricket captain, topped off a sensational year after being crowned International Women's Cricketer of the Year.

AWARD: England's Charlotte Edwards

The England skipper was presented with the award by Indian legend Ravi Shastri in front of the cream of the cricketing world at the International Cricket Council's ceremony in Dubai.

A delighted Edwards said: "When you grow up you want to be the best you can possibly can. I am just happy to be contributing to the team, playing well and helping the side win, so I think this award has made it more special."

Edwards led her side to 15 straight wins in international cricket which included five series wins against New Zealand, South Africa, West Indies, India and the her all-conquering England side reclaimed the Ashes in Australia. Edwards faces a big 2009 as she will lead her side out in the World Cup and World Twenty20.

BRONZE: Rowing duo Alastair McKean and James Morgan

TWO rowers were the pick of Kent's athletes in the Beijing Paralympics as they returned to the county with bronze medals.

Alastair McKean from Canterbury and James Morgan from Deal, helped Great Britain's mixed coxed fours win bronze at the Shunyi Rowing Lake in Beijing.

It wasn't such good news for Dervis Konuralp from Dartford who went home without a medal after missing out in three events. Herne Bay's Nathan Milgate made the final of the 10m air rifle standing and prone events where he finished seventh and 12 respectively.

OCTOBER

THE 2008 season will go down as the one that got away from Kent as the campaign ended with relegation from Division One of the County Championship.

Defeats in the final of the Twenty20 Cup and the Friends Provident Trophy final at Lord's in August, together with missing out on promotion to Division One of the Pro40 competition signalled a campaign that could have seen the county go down in history.

Having been in contention for all four domestic competitions – including the County Championship up to the last game of the season – Kent's bid to add to their Twenty20 success of 2007 was shot down in flames over the course of a few weeks. It was topped off with relegation in the championship for the first time in the club's history.

Skipper Rob Key said: "Obviously being in Division Two is going to be new for us and we've got to get out of that before we can even think about being the best again."

NEWLY-crowned 2008 British Superbike Champion Shane 'Shakey' Byrne made the announcement that he will be plying his trade in the World Superbike Championship next season.

The Sheppey rider, who clinched his second British title in the penultimate round of the series, signed for Sterilgarda Ducati and will race in the World series in 2009.

A delighted Byrne said: "My first title in 2003 was all about winning to help my career. This time I just wanted to win. There are some real top guys in the World Championship and it is becoming bigger and bigger. I will give it my all but I am not going to say I am going to win anything yet."

The new British champion will take heart from his two victories in the World Series as a wild card rider in 2003.

NOVEMBER

RETURN? Takaloo

AFTER almost a year of questioning his future, Kent's premier boxer Mehrdud Takaloo revealed he had been tempted into a comeback by friend and undefeated boxing champion Joe Calzaghe.

The former two-time WBU champion at both light-middleweight and welterweight, was seriously considering ending his career in the sport after a disappointing defeat to Anthony Small in January.

However, after leading Calzaghe out in his last professional fight against Roy Jones Jr in New York, Takaloo, from Margate, admitted his passion for boxing had been reignited.

"It has given me a good feeling and has made me want to get back in the ring," he said. "My decision is made, it's just a case of getting the right fight."

Takaloo is hoping Calzaghe will be his promoter in the New Year and hopes to be back in the ring at the beginning of 2009.

A KENT racer became one of the first drivers in the world to test a Formula One car with the new 2009 rule changes.

Jonathan Kennard, from Tunbridge Wells, tested the brand new 2009 specification aero package car for Formula One team, Williams.

The former Formula 3 driver reached speeds of 200mph to help calculate the difference the new rules will make on the F1 championship next season.

The 23-year-old, who is yet to find a drive for himself next season, feels the championship will be a lot more open in 2009 as a result of the changes to the car.

He said: "It will definitely make the championship a lot more exciting as it should allow much more overtaking."

DECEMBER

THE £10 million redevelopment of the St Lawrence Ground in Canterbury could be delayed until 2010 after a contractor pulled out as a result of the credit crunch.

The club unveiled plans for the project, which includes a 130-bed hotel, conference facilities and a facelift for the pavilion, to its members in December, 2006, and expected work to have begun at the beginning of this year. However, the development met a number of obstacles and until a new contractor is found, building work could be delayed for another two years.

Chairman George Kennedy said: "It's far from certain, I would much rather pull out of the whole thing and wait until the market improves, unless we can get the right price for our assets. We are not going to sell the family silver cheaply."

CUP BRACE: Gills' Andy Barcham

GILLINGHAM'S loyal fans are in for a treat in the New Year as they welcome Premier League giants Aston Villa to the Priestfield Stadium in the third round of the FA Cup.

The Gills set up the tie with Martin O'Neill's side after coming through a replay against League One side Stockport County.

Andy Barcham's double in the 2-1 win means the Gills will take on Villa in a game that the Kent club are expecting to earn in the region of £300,000.

Manager Mark Stimson has already set the money aside to retain the services of first-team coach Mark Robson, rather than use it as a war chest to bring players in during the January transfer window.

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SPORTS REVIEW 2008
A look back at the big stories that made the headlines over the last year **54-55**

Willis says club will have to ride out the financial crisis before making a move for an overseas star

Picture: ADY KERRY

MONEY TALKS AS KENT MADE TO WAIT

MAKE DO: Kent coach Simon Willis says talks about an overseas signing have been put on hold until financial situation is improved

By **GLENN PEARSON**

THE financial difficulties that have halted Kent's £10 million ground redevelopments means the club's hopes of attracting an overseas star have also been put on temporary hold.

The county's chairman, George Kennedy, told Kent on Sunday earlier this month that the redevelopment of the St Lawrence Ground could be delayed for as long as two years after a contractor pulled out as a result of the worsening economic climate.

While other counties look to recruit new players, Kent will have to wait until their financial situation becomes clearer before sitting down to discuss what players they hope to attract to Canterbury, which includes an overseas star to replace Pakistan international Yasir Arafat.

Coach Simon Willis told Kent on Sunday: "I think to be fair, the club's financial situation means that we do not know where we are in a cricket type of view.

"The club's finances have been commented on by the chairman. Once these issues have been resolved we maybe able to go out into the market for some players. We have a list of names that we can talk to but we won't be doing until the finances are right."

Neil Dexter, Matt Walker and Arafat all left the club at the end of last season which has left the county light in the batting department.

Willis wouldn't be drawn on whether the club would be searching for a specialist batsman as their overseas star for 2009, but said that it was hoped the management team would be able to speak to some international players next year.

He said: "It's too early to be talking about getting in an overseas players because it's all down to the money.

"If we were to get a little pot of money we might go a different way, so it's really down to the financial situation as to how many and what players we get for next season.

"We might go for a quality domestic player which may then have a bearing on what type of overseas player we go for."

Kent have offered development contracts to youngsters Phil Edwards, Warren Lee and Charlie Hemphrey, while batsman Sam Northeast is expected to be given an opportunity next season.

One player to have come in at the St Lawrence Ground is former Kent spinner Rob Ferley. The 26-year-old left the club in 2006 after failing to nail down a place at Canterbury, but has returned after a similar situation at Nottinghamshire.

Willis, who helped orchestrate the move, has hinted that the county could go with both off-spinner James Tredwell and Ferley in the County Championship next season.

"Rob rang me to say he was looking at his options and we felt it was an area we were looking to have in our bowling attack as it's another variety – turning the ball away from the bat," he said. "I see the signing as a positive one.

"The feedback we have got about Division Two is that there are more result wickets and the grounds we will be playing at are more conducive to spin. There is a good chance that we may play two spinners, particularly in one-day cricket."

Stimson happy to be in chasing pack

GILLINGHAM welcome Wycombe Wanderers to Priestfield this afternoon, with manager Mark Stimson insisting he wouldn't want to swap places with the league leaders.

The league season reaches its halfway stage today with Gills spending the vast majority of the campaign, to date, on the fringes of the play-offs.

Despite most fans envying front runners Wycombe, Stimson admits he would rather be in the pack than out in front at this stage of the season.

"I think so at the moment because there's such a long way to go," he said. "If you're at the top everyone wants to beat you and they try that little bit harder but if you're sitting around eighth or 10th place, you might not get that respect you probably deserve."

A win would help Gills establish themselves as a team to watch in the second half of the season. They have past form on their side, with Wycombe claiming just one draw from their last five league visits, with their last win at Priestfield coming in 1994.

The game is the last chance for players to impress ahead of next Sunday's eagerly-awaited FA Cup tie with Premiership giants Aston Villa. Stimson will use the game against the Premier League side as an incentive to produce a committed display today.

He said: "We have got to stay focused because everyone's human and we know what's coming. We can't get away from that but I'll be stressing to the players that won't happen if you don't perform correctly, because no-one's shirt is guaranteed."

Picture: IGOR KUPCO

IN A GOOD PLACE: Gills boss Mark Stimson

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